



# Willamette Chapter American Rhododendron Society Newsletter

Volume 4

December 2023

Issue 10



Willamette Chapter ARS  
Rhododendron Hillside Garden  
Bush Pasture Park

**CHAPTER MEETINGS:** Our current chapter meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through May at a local Salem restaurant. Gather for dinner at 5:00pm, meeting begins at 6:30pm, and the speaker and program at 7:00pm. Our meetings will be in person unless otherwise stated. Meeting information will be sent to members via email and available in this newsletter.

## Willamette Chapter ARS Potluck

Saturday, December 2, 2023

Redgate Vineyards and Winery

Full Details on Pages 7 & 8



MERRY  
CHRISTMAS







# President's Report Dec. 2023

Looks like we are in for an El Niño winter – a bit warmer with fewer storms. So, we can all get our yard work done this winter!

Hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, I enjoyed getting together with family and friends to enjoy great food and great company. I brought a new recipe for Green Bean casserole, which was really good.

Speaking of food, I am looking forward to our December Potluck on Saturday, December 2 at Redgate winery in Independence. There are quite a few members already signed up to attend and the list of food they are all bringing sounds really yummy! If you have any friends you would like to introduce to the WCARS, please bring them! If they are remotely interested in finding out about the club before joining, this will be a fun event to share with them.

Looking forward to welcoming in 2024.

**Dana Malby** - President



# November Minutes



## Mary Crofts Secretary Nov 8, 2023

Our meeting was again held at The Ram in Salem, in the Bearcat Room. And as usual, we feasted from 5 to 6:30, then the Chapter meeting started. We had a "full house" tonight, literally. And that included our newest members, Nancy and Jay Burr, along with visitors (make that "potential members"): Deanne and Mike Novotny, who are neighbors of Keith and Mary Ellen. Also in attendance was a long time member, Thuy Christenson. Thuy has some "history" with us. She and her husband, Dale, ran Bear Creek Nursery (now closed), where we got many plants for sales and auctions. She remembered me from WAY back when I first joined and she was coming to meetings, putting that at about 2008. She has a really good memory !

President Dana Malby opened the meeting with a review of our Board Meeting on November 1st. Treasurer's report (Adele O'Neal) was given the "ok" and we went on to business, first being our December potluck. It will be Saturday, December 2nd gathering at noon, with eating at 1:00pm until 3 pm or Steve kicks us out. Dana will be preparing prime rib (thought of Wally and Kathy). The rest of us will contribute side dishes and/or desserts. So we don't get an overload of any one item, Dana had prepared a sign-up sheet attached to a clipboard and holding a pen. Shades of pre-Covid meetings and Dick Cavender. Feels like home.

The Board had also reviewed highlights from the Florence Conference, especially Mike Bones' "tips" on how to gain new members. Among the ideas he presented were: presenting new members with a rhydy complete with instructions on how to care for it; new name tags with someone to handle giving them out at meetings and collecting them when the meeting has finished (probably the Greeter, Membership chairman and/or Publicity chairman).

Before Sandi gave her presentation, it was decided to hold our first raffle since covid. This was one of Mike's ideas and since Ali Sarlak volunteered at the Board meeting to be first volunteer, we went ahead

with it. Susan Doellinger passed out raffle tickets and someone's hat held the winning tickets. First up, a beautiful Black Mondo Grass and the winner was Keith White. The second plant was a shamrock which was won by Nancy Burr. Then it was on to Sandi and : "Fuchsias, Not Just Your Grandma's Flower".

Sandi has been growing fuchsias for the past 45+ years. She and her husband, Larry, live at the Coast Range between Eugene and Florence where the climate is perfect for fuchsias. It's cool, moist and has shade . Both of them have been active in ARS with Larry as a past president of the Siuslaw Chapter and Sandi the current newsletter editor. Sandi grows some plants in the ground but most of the fuchsias are in pots. They are now gaining in popularity and pots are a lot easier to handle. She takes cuttings of her fuchsias each year in order to make sure the older varieties are not dwindled out. She also admitted that she's "obsessed" with caring for her "babies" , whether from a cutting or from a broken stem.

She grows her babies in "her castle". Actually, it's her second "castle", that is a greenhouse. Her first one burned down so Larry really worked this second one out and it's a beauty. It's well-insulated with florescent lights and a heating system that doesn't come on until the weather starts to get below freezing. Plants winter-over in what they call "the hole in the wall". It's a root cellar made into a boards-and-bricks sort of "case". First Sandi has to trim back each fuchsia. They're trimmed back hard, cutting at an angle. Fuchsias "bleed" but you don't want that left on the plant so the cut is angled away from bleeding on the stems. Once they're all trimmed and stuffed tightly onto a shelf in the "root cellar", they're ok until spring. The rain leaking through provides enough water. If she just put them in a garage, then she'd have to water them; in the root cellar there's enough moisture to keep them all alive and happy.

Sandi has about 150 varieties of fuchsia's. Most of them have come from New Zealand and some from South America, but there are no species north of Mexico.

Fuchsias tend to have a lot of diseases. They are prone to **spider mites** unless the roots are kept cool in summer. Often, damage first appears as a stippling of light dots on the leaves; sometimes leaves turn a bronze color. Heavily infested leaves can turn yellow and drop off. Damage is usually

most severe in hot, dusty conditions and on water-stressed plants.

To eradicate spider mites cut off branches at least two leaf nodes below the infected area. Burn the clippings to kill the mites or seal them in a plastic bag and leave them in the sun for a day or two before discarding. Spray all fuchsias in your garden with a spray containing Thiodan or Vendex.



**Fuchsia infected with spider mites**

They can get "**rust**", which is a fungus and causes orange pustules to develop on the undersides of the leaves. The treatment is to, pick off the "rust-ed" leaves, wash your hands really well, and move the plant(s) to an airier location.



**Fuchsia infected with rust**

Fuchsia **gall mite** is a microscopic creature that can have a profound effect on the growth of fuchsia plants. The mites are 0.25mm long, too small to be seen without a microscope. They affect new growth at the shoot tips where they suck sap and secrete chemicals that prevent the normal development of leaves and flowers.

If they get gall mite, they look a dusty greyish color. Remove the blooms, wash up really well, and don't throw the contaminated parts in the compost.





**Fuchsia infected with gall mite**

Where to grow fuchsias is very important. It's not easy to tell whether or not a fuchsia plant is full grown and should be bearing blooms or if it is still too immature to do so. If yours is a ground fuchsia, then you need a full-sun position. Otherwise, plant it in a pot. Plants that are listed as "hardy" may not be hardy at all. Click [here](#) for a list of hardy fuchsias.

They come in all sizes. There are some that don't even become a shrub; they bloom close to or on the ground. There are some that can get as high as 40 feet. (Australia, I think) They can be grown as "standards". For those who don't know what a "standard" is, it's when the lower limbs of a plant are cut off until the main portion of the plant sits on a stem or trunk. The flowers grow in the main body which is atop the stem or stalk or trunk, and with fuchsias, the blooms will droop down.



**TOP: Low growing fuchsia**



**LEFT: Standard fuchsia**

Fuchsias like a lot of water and a lot of food. But they don't like to sit in water; they need perfect drainage. They appreciate a bit of afternoon shade, especially when temperatures are sky-high in summer. But to bloom best, they also need a few hours of sun.

All of Sandi's pictures did not come up on the screen. She was frustrated but by her description I could visualize in my mind what the plant looked like. We all thought it was a great program.

She also furnished us with a couple of hand-outs, one I already had from the Conference and which really outlines what to do or not do with fuchsias. I'm glad I got one because I've been doing everything wrong when it comes to fuchsias.

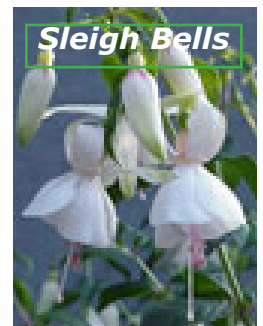
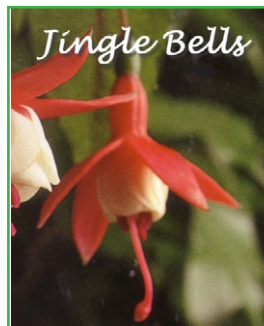
Finishing up, Sandi treated us to "freebee" fuchsia babies to take home and hopefully get to survive and bloom. Many thanks, Sandi, for your talk and plants that I will be growing by the rules for fuchsias.

We adjourned and then were free to pick out a baby fuchsia.

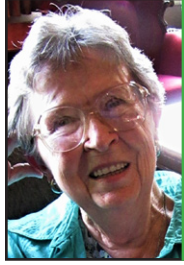
Respectfully submitted,  
**Mary Crofts** - Secretary- WCARS

You can find more information [here](#) for the Oregon Fuchsia Society in Portland. And there is a wealth of information [here](#) for the Northwest Fuchsia Society in Seattle.

**Holiday Fuchsias**



# November Board Meeting Minutes



**Mary Crofts  
Secretary  
Nov 1, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Dana Malby. All Board Members attending via Zoom.

Treasurer, Adele O'Neal reported that we had \$1239.70 in our checking account and \$2419.02 in our business account.

Thirteen regular members and 4 associate members have paid this year's dues. We now have 2 new members: Nancy and Jay Burr.

Discussed ideas for increasing membership: give new members a rhody, have a raffle(s) each meeting, have people sign up to contribute a door prize (raffle). Ali will start this idea going by bringing the first item to be a door prize or raffle at our November meeting. It was decided that the door prize didn't necessarily have to be a rhody but could be anything that evening's contributor want for prize. (I'm assuming that means within good taste !)

Discussed being a part of this year's Home and Garden Show which is in February.

Discussed Log Cabin Nursery and Oregon Rhododendron Nursery in Corvallis.

Discussed setting a permanent date for a monthly board meeting. Decided on the first Wednesday before a Membership Meeting.

Keith started the discussion about name tags. It was tentatively decided that the Greeter should be the person to hold on to the name tags, distribute them at each meeting and collect them at the end of the meeting as name tags were being lost or forgotten, etc. and so forth. It was unclear as to who would make the name tags. (I know Keith and Mary Ellen have their hands on this idea as they found my name tag from Scotland amidst a bunch of old ones !)

Mary Ellen is still researching possible meeting places as the Bearcat Room is a bit small if we succeed in growing in membership.

Discussed Kathy's new website. See this month's newsletter for more detail.

Discussed awards and recognition. Dana will appoint someone to Chair this.

Discussed December's potluck and date to have it. It was decided to see if Redgate Winery can be the location with the date to follow after Keith discusses this with the owner, Steve Dunn.

Finally, Adele told us that our gift basket for the silent auction at the Florence conference sold for \$100. And was the second highest bid for anything, with Siuslaw Chapter being first with \$150.

We started the meeting at 7 pm and finished a little after 8 pm.

**Mary Crofts** - Secretary - WCARS

**Keith White**, Program Chair, also discussed:

Chapter member improvement ideas from Western Regional ARS Conference, Florence, OR

Members want fun, food, flowers , friends, facts.

Call members who do not re-up their membership

Build partnerships with other Garden clubs

Leadership: Mentoring Program (Vice President, assistant program chairman, etc, etc)

Welcome new ideas and new people.....Invite your neighbors and friends

Build understanding and commitment. Brief discussion of ARS history, benefits, operations, gardens.

Free plant for new members

Plant sales at expositions=home and garden, etc, (flowering 1-gallon plants) Buy wholesale

Membership on line: arsoffice.org. Membership categories, see full form

Name tags



Cultivate commitment. Give out jobs to willing member: Publicity, greeting, etc

Make contact with nurseries for membership (the business)

Plastic spike "Willamette Chapter, American Rhododendron Society endorses this nursery, join us, [www.arswillamette.com](http://www.arswillamette.com)

Give nurseries literature on rhododendron planting and care to hand out to buyers, have our name and contact info rubber stamped on the literature. Access to ARS Website.

Facebook page, garden section of newspaper,

Put on classes at flower shows, home and garden shows, etc. Pass out literature to attendees.

Donate plants to neighbors, potential new members

Raffle at meetings and expositions

Auction plants at meetings.

Game Circle

Outdoor events and Pot Lucks

## Rhododendrons with Holiday Names



**R. 'Christmas Cheer'** Photo by Stuart Imrie

Extremely early pink flowers attract plant enthusiasts to this rhododendron. Tough, medium size leaves densely dress the well-shaped plant. Please note that it doesn't bloom at Christmas time as the name might indicate. Its blossoming is closer to the roaring of the March lion.



**R. 'Jingle Bells'** Photo by Rhodo Direct

With a name like Jingle Bells, it seems this hybrid rhododendron should be red and bloom in December but that is not the case. It blooms in late spring and the flowers are tubular funnel-shaped, 3" across, orange with vivid red throat, orange fades to light yellow with age. Black anthers and stigma. Held in lax truss of 8-10 flowers. It prefers semi shade with a peaty acidic soil.



**R. 'Festive Bells'** Photo by Sweetgum and Pines

R. 'Festive Bells' is a vireya, a tropical rhododendron, and is one of only two Rhododendron species native to Australia. It has red, bell shaped flowers and is noted for its phenotypic dominance and the vigor that it imparts to hybrids. Hybrids with R. viriosum as a parent almost invariably have bell shaped flowers in some shade of red, and they are usually strong growers.



**Wishing you all a most Merry and Blessed Holiday Season!**

**Please click [here](#) for a very special holiday message**



# WCARS DECEMBER POTLUCK

**When:** Saturday, December 2, 2023  
Arrive at Noon, Eat at 1 PM

**Where:** Redgate Vineyards and Winery,  
8175 Buena Vista Rd, Independence, OR 97351  
Click [here](#) for directions  
<https://www.redgatewinery.com>

**What:** Prime Rib courtesy of WCARS Chef, Dana Malby  
Wine provided by Redgate/WCARS

Please bring a side dish, salad or desert of your choosing

**RSVP:** to Dana Malby (if you haven't already done so)  
at [www.tdsamal@msn.com](mailto:www.tdsamal@msn.com) or 503-480-9807



From last year's  
potluck:  
Good food, Good  
company and  
Good wine





The gathering will begin at 12:00n on December 2 to allow for a social time to “connect and catch up” with one another. Feasting will begin at 1:00pm. Dana Malby will provide the prime rib (rare for those like Anne Gross, to medium rare, to done for those that don’t like a Moo). Your assignment, should you accept it, is to provide a companion dish to the prime rib.

A sign up sheet was passed around at our meeting on November 8. The following is a copy of that list in case you forgot what you signed up for, as well as notification for those who weren’t at the meeting.

**Main Dishes**

- Dana – Prime Rib
- Adele – Vegetarian Mushroom Lasagna

**Side Dishes**

- Susan and Paul – Potato Casserole
- Mary – Veggie
- Karen Landers – Sweet Potato Casserole
- Mary Ellen – 7 Layer Salad
- Keith – Green Beans and Mushrooms
- Thuy Chrestenson – Vietnamese Spring Rolls
- Nancy Burr – Potato dish
- Bill Vagt – Salad
- Ali Sarlak – Potato Pan Cakes
- Adele – Rolls

**Dessert**

- Karen Landers – Dessert – TBD
- Mary – Cookies
- Susan – Dessert – TBD
- Mary Ellen – Dessert - TBD

**Please RSVP to Dana** so he brings enough prime rib. His contact information is: [www.tdsamal@msn.com](http://www.tdsamal@msn.com) or **503-480-9807**. As listed previously, inviting friends and/or neighbors is way to build up membership for our chapter, so I encourage you to bring at least one guest to this festive event. Remember to include them in your RSVP to Dana.

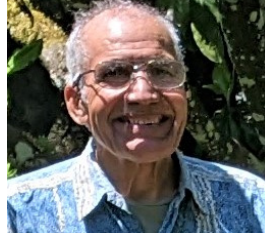
The Chapter will provide tableware, coffee and tea. Redgate will provide all the wine, and they also have beer, N/A beer, sodas, water, Whiteclaw and cider.



# January Program 1/10/2024

## NW Woods Mushrooms

by Ali Sarlak



**Fungi:**

One of my love’s of being with nature in the fall is photographing all sorts of mushrooms and trying to separate one that you can eat from the one you only eat once.



Mushrooms are genetically closer to animals than plants . Mushrooms have classifications of their own family and kingdom.

I am pleased to show what I have been seeing and photographing in our areas.

**Ali Sarlak**

Ali must know his mushrooms as he’s still here to talk about it. The following photos by Ali Sarlak.







## A Good Week

It had been a long time, since before the pandemic, that we had visited our friends, Bob Zimmermann and Beth Orling, proprietors of Chimacum Woods Nursery, in Port Ludlow, Washington, overlooking Hood's Canal. We had set aside Monday November 13th through Wednesday November 15th to visit Chimacum Woods.

At the recent Western Regional Rhododendron conference in Florence, we met Evan Pringle. He was new to the ARS, so at the conference, we took him around and introduced him to many rhododendrons and many of our friends. Evan has significant plant knowledge. The idea struck us that perhaps we could get Evan (and his little dog, Sophie) to accompany us to Port Ludlow. The idea was to get Evan into the depths of species rhododendrons (since Chimacum Woods puts out the very finest large specimens and best grown of rhododendron species plants, most grown right on sight from seed collected in the wild or from cuttings taken from rhodos grown from seed). We knew that Bob and Beth would give us all a great tour and insight into this delicate and intensely all-consuming process. Please check out this link to Chimacum Woods Nursery: [www.chimacumwoods.com](http://www.chimacumwoods.com) It is in the woods, amongst undisturbed old growth Douglas Fir forest, thick with ferns and red huckleberry bushes, and native madrone trees and dogwood trees. Planted within the forest were giant old species rhododendrons.

Indeed, we got the full tour, from soup to nuts, or more properly, from seed to sinogrande. We had wonderful meals at Bob and Beth's great house, all glass in the front, looking out over the forest at Hood's Canal and the Olympic and Cascade Mountain Ranges. And after our nursery tour we spent the afternoon at Victorian Port Townsend. This small town is like a San Francisco frozen in time at 1905. First we visited the Jefferson County Courthouse. This building is the largest and most ornate, astounding example of Victorian red brick and rustic stone architecture one could imagine.

It was cold and a little windy. A highlight was the Northwest Maritime Center and Wooden Boat Foundation. We ambled through their museum/workshop to see beautiful, sleek wooden boats during

active construction. We walked the entire splendid old downtown then drank off the cold with a hot toddy at a nearby coffee house. (I had to teach the ladies at the coffee bar how to make an Irish Coffee).

After a sumptuous breakfast with Bob and Beth the next morning, we departed towards Tacoma, over miles of forest and quaint villages then across the famous Tacoma Narrows Bridge. Our goal was the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden. Time was precious, so we took a "quick tour" lasting (time flew) only two hours. We went round and through, starting with the numerous hoop houses with huge rows of species Rhodos in pots, the sub-tropical house and the very modern propagation greenhouse where the seedlings are started. A much bigger operation now, producing hundreds of species rhododendrons, amongst them the newest discoveries, some made by Curator/Director Steve Hootman. The RSBG has the most complete collection of rhododendron species in the world, just eclipsing the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh. Then we moved on into the Garden. We combed through the now very mature "stumpery", the pond garden, and the place where Curator Steve Hootman had hidden the now large Rhododendron lanatoides that I had managed to get from the Tra La in Tibet (1997) intact to Steve. (Bob Zimmerman was largely responsible for this. He scraped 20 or so seedlings off a log, in the moss that they had germinated in, keeping them alive and splitting them up amongst the expedition members for the long flight home). We marveled at the trees of *R auriculatim* and *R fortunii* and the bigleaf Rhodos: *sinogrande* and cousins.

Then the modern all glass conservatory, landscaped inside with fountains pouring from the top of tall hexagonal columnar basalt columns making a stream that flows under a footbridge. The conservatory is chuck full of very well placed tropical *Vireya* rhododendrons and multiple tropical plants including exotic ferns, orchids and *Agapetes*. I cannot easily describe the conservatory. You have to see it. Please peruse the RSBG website: [www.rhodygarden.org](http://www.rhodygarden.org)

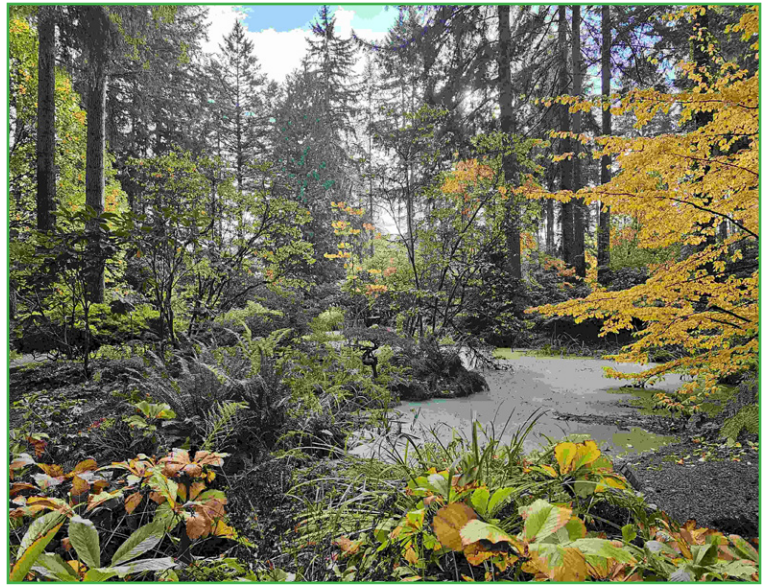
Here and in the garden Evan demonstrated his good photographic eye. Included are a small sample of Evan's photographs. After catching up with Mary Ellen we beat cleats for home, stopping at the Olympic Hotel in historic downtown Centralia for a sandwich and a pint.

**Keith White**

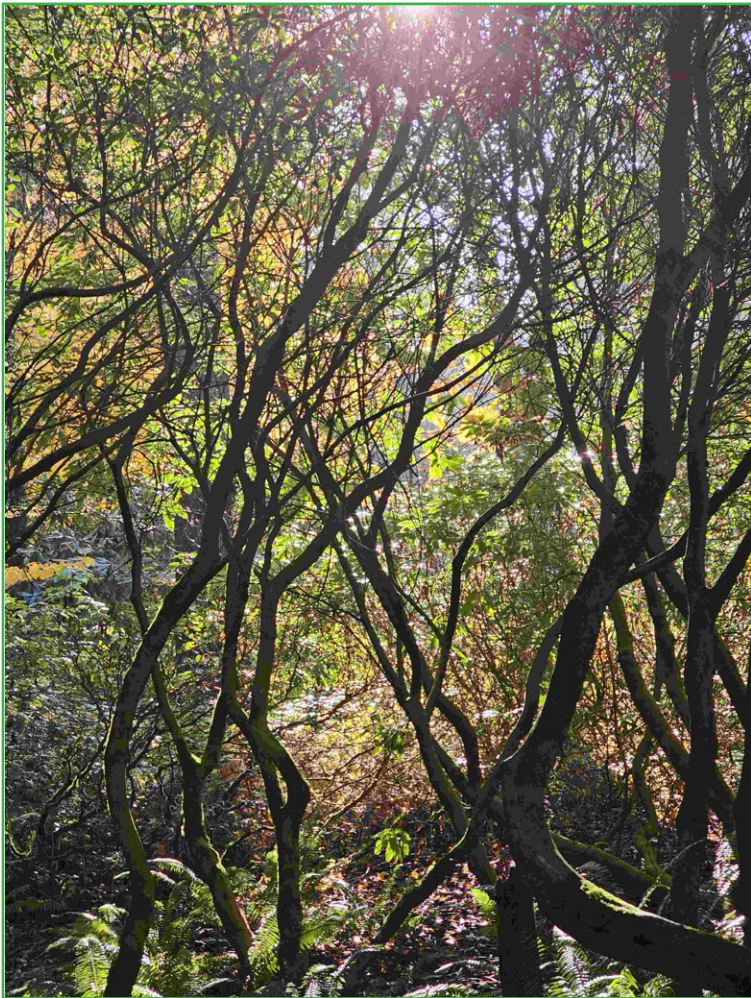


Evan Pringle has long been a plant enthusiast. Some of his earliest memories are of being in the dirt and a strawberry patch. He has a love for all things nature and has a unique eye when it comes to capturing these beautiful subjects through photography. He grew up in Paradise California, vegetable gardening on a walnut orchard. As he moved throughout the states and even the world, he never missed a gardening season or a chance to play with the local plants. Evan has several years experience as an assistant nursery manager and is currently self employed doing yard and plant care maintenance and is associated with the Florence, Oregon ARS Chapter.

The following pictures are just a few of the numerous magnificent photos Evan took at the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden.



**RSBG Pond Garden**



**R. fortunei tree forest**



**arisaema  
fruit (seeds)  
autumn**

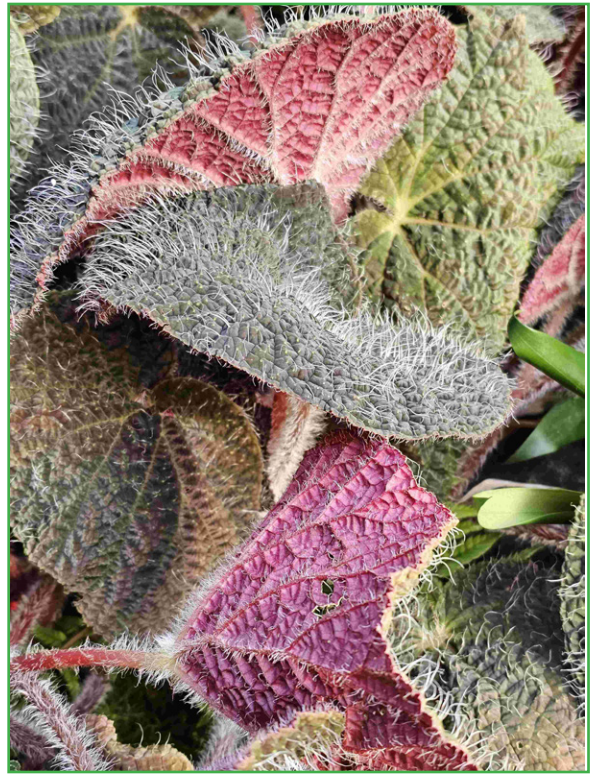


**R. sinogrande**





**R. tuba  
in conservatory**



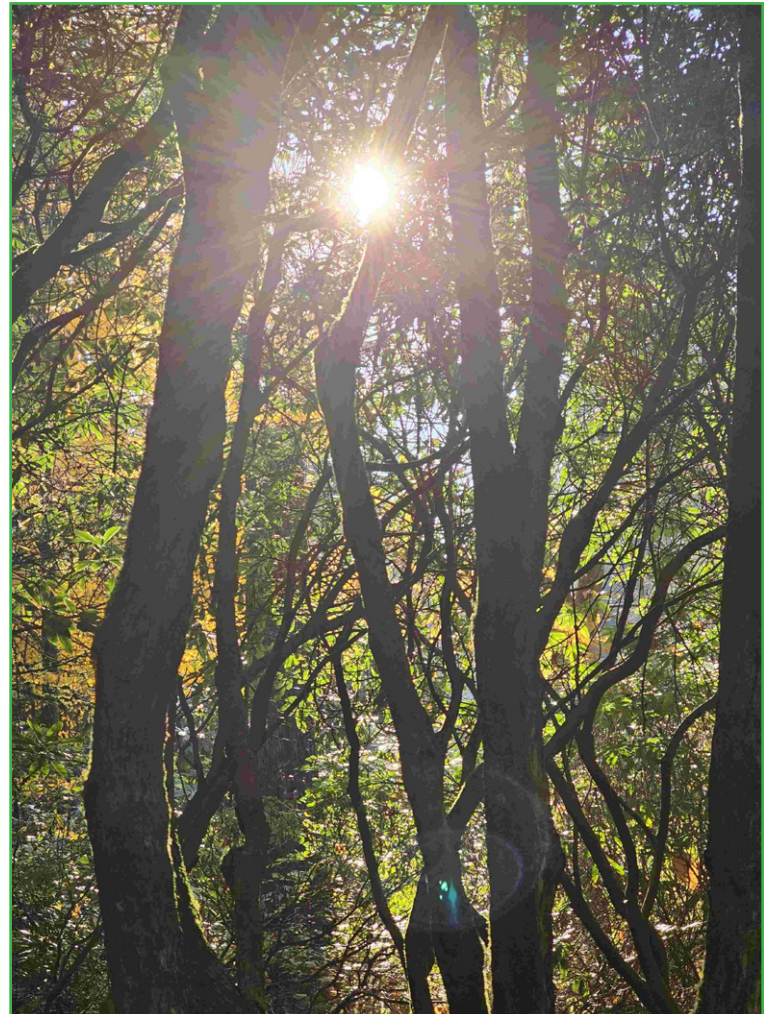
**Tropical begonia - Conservatory**



**Acer griseum  
(paperbark  
maple)  
bark**



**Unk Vireya  
Conservatory**



**R. fortunii tree forest**



# Richard Jack Lundin

## November 12, 1929 - November 4, 2023

**It is not what he has,  
or even what he does  
which expresses the worth of a man,  
but what he is.**

**Henri-Frederic Amiel**



**The following was provided by Dick's wife, Carol Lundin:**

Richard Jack Lundin was born November 12, 1929 in Rockford Illinois. He was the first born to Willard and Eldora Lundin. He had two siblings. He is survived by a sister Rita Joan of Salem and a brother deceased Robert John.

Throughout his childhood Richard lived in Rockford Illinois, Portland Oregon, Salem Oregon, and Bend Oregon. Richard graduated from Bend High School. He joined the Navy in October 1948 where he served on the USS Prairie AD-15. He held the rank of Fire Control Technician Third Class and was honorably discharged in 1952. He received three medals: the China Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, and United Nations Medal.

In 1950 in Yuma Arizona Richard married Lois Deen, They had 7 children:

Karen Yvonne 1953 {She has 3 sons Jason, Nathan and Micah and 1 daughter Kecia}

Thomas David 1954, deceased {He has 2 daughters Ester and Becky}

Robyn Nanette 1955, {She has 2 sons Jaffa and Charles (Deceased)}

Timothy Scott 1956 {He has 3 sons Thomas, Timothy and Troy}

Suzanna Threse 1958 {She has 4 daughters Lynda, Erica, Coral and Keanyn 1 son Adam}

Danita Eldora 1960 {No children}



Tracy Lynn 1963 {He has 2 sons Jacob, Jadon and 1 daughter Rachel}

Richard and Lois divorced. He married Carol Vogt in 1970 and they had one daughter.

Noelle Marie 1970 deceased {She had 2 daughters Shelby and Brandy}

Richard has many great grandchildren and great great grandchildren.

As an adult he lived in California and returned to Salem Oregon in 1953, went to Benson tech and worked at various jobs. Richard went to work for Caterpillar tractor in Dallas OR 1963 and retired in 1988.

He had many Talents and Hobbies.

He had horses, made his own shirts, was into gardening, growing and selling Alstroemerias. He also grew over 200 different Rhododendrons. He was also a rockhound and collected rocks and minerals, which he made into jewelry. He was into silver smithing, collecting seashells, did woodworking, put together puzzles, and read books. He did everything under the sun, he was a man of MANY talents.

Can't forget his Amazing Snickerdoodle Cookies!

Richard will be dearly missed and loved. We will all remember the times we had with him. May his memory live on forever in all of us.

Richards remains will be interned at the Willamette National Cemetery in Portland OR.

### **Keith White wrote the following about Dick:**

Thinking back about Dick Lundin, having not seen him since before the pandemic, I remember that Dick always came up close in front to greet me. He was a thinker and often asked, in jest, a difficult question that made me think several beats before I could answer. Dick had a perpetual smile. He was a happy, positive guy.

In earlier days, he and wife Carol often brought granddaughter, Shelby, to WCARS meetings. Shelby became our chapter librarian and thus was involved. Granddaughter, Brandy, the younger of the two sisters, occasionally attended WCARS meetings as well.

Dick was unflappable. He usually had a positive answer for what to do in puzzling questions.

Mary Ellen and I made a visit to their home way out off of State Street, when I went to pick up the chapter library before Dick and Carol moved to their new cozy home in Salem Green Manufactured Home Park.

Dick contributed a lot to the chapter. For many years he published his colorful and informative and topical version of our chapter newsletter. Dick also designed and printed the very clever and beautiful name badges for chapter members, each with a different named rhododendron and the member's name overlaid in white.

He was definitely an involved, enthusiastic member of our Chapter!

If you would like to send a card to Carol her address is:

Carol Lundin  
4730 Auburn Rd NE Unit 42  
Salem, OR 97301-4944





The following are pictures of Dick, Carol and family. As the saying goes, A picture is worth a thousand words. And those of you who know Dick and Carol need no explanation.





**Maria Stewart**  
**The Goal Isn't to Live Forever**  
**It is to Create Something That Will**  
**Chuck Palahniuk**

Sadly, we received this the morning of 11/13/23 from Evelyn Kritler of the Portland ARS Chapter.

It is with a very heavy heart that we share the passing of Maria Stewart earlier this morning.

You may have known Maria as a friend, a rhododendron expert, or by her monthly column in Rhododendron News. She has impacted all of our lives in one way or another. Our rhododendron community celebrates her life and legacy and mourns this tremendous loss.

Over the past weeks, Maria was surrounded by her family from near and far. We are grateful that they were able to have that time together.

We will share more details in the coming weeks about how we can best celebrate Maria's life. Please keep Mike and the Stewart family in your thoughts and prayers as they walk through this difficult season.



*In Loving Memory  
of Maria Stewart*

**Yellow Hammer  
is the Flower for  
December**



**R. 'Yellow Hammer'**  
**Photo by Millais Nursery**

**Predominant Flower Color:** Yellow

**Flower/Truss Description:** Flower tubular-campanulate, 1/2" across, empire-yellow, unmarked. Held in multiple bud clusters with 2 flowers per bud.

**Fragrant:** No

**Bloom Time:** Early (and often again in the fall)

**Foliage Description/Plant Habitat:** Leaves narrowly elliptic, about 1" long, slightly glossy, dark green. Upright habit, can become straggly as it grows. Prune to retain shape.

**Height:** 6 feet in 10 years.

**Cold Hardiness Temp:** 0°F ( -18°C)

**Parentage (Seed Parent x Pollen Parent)**  
sulfureum x flavidum

**Elepidote (E) or Lepidote (L):** L

**Hybridized or Selected by:** Waterer, J.

I chose Yellow Hammer for the flower this month because it has fresh blossoms in our garden right now.

## MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS

### EUGENE CHAPTER

Third Wednesday from Oct to March at 7:30pm

### PORTLAND CHAPTER

Third Thursday from Sept to May at 7:00pm  
Reedwood Friends Church, 2901 SE Steele Street  
Portland 97202

### SALEM HARDY PLANT SOCIETY

First Tuesday from Sept to May at 7:00pm  
Dye House at Willamette Heritage Center, 1313  
Mill Street SE, Salem, OR

### SUISLAW CHAPTER

Third Tuesday at 7:00pm  
First Presbyterian Church, 3996 Highway 101,  
Florence, OR

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## DISTRICT 4 CHAPTER WEB SITES

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Willamette Chapter | <a href="http://arswillamette.com">arswillamette.com</a>           |
| Eugene Chapter     | <a href="http://eugene-chapter-ars.org">eugene-chapter-ars.org</a> |
| Portland Chapter   | <a href="http://rhodies.org">rhodies.org</a>                       |
| Siuslaw Chapter    | <a href="http://siuslawars.org">siuslawars.org</a>                 |

All other web sites can be found on  
[rhododendron.org](http://rhododendron.org)  
Under "chapters" under web sites

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**ARS BULLETINS** are available online at:  
<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/JARS/>

## WILLAMETTE CHAPTER ARS AWARDS HISTORY - 1978 to 2019

### GOLD ---

|             |      |
|-------------|------|
| Herb Spady  | 1991 |
| Betty Spady | 2001 |

### SILVER ---

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Richard "Dick" Cavendar | 2003 |
|-------------------------|------|

### BRONZE ---

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| June Brennan             | 1987 |
| Jason Ashford            | 1990 |
| Constance Hansen         | 1991 |
| Betty Spady              | 1991 |
| Bob Grasing              | 1997 |
| Sharon Leopold           | 2002 |
| Wilbur Bluhm             | 2006 |
| Chuck and Maxine Dehn    | 2006 |
| Keith White              | 2007 |
| Helen Malby              | 2008 |
| Anne Gross               | 2009 |
| Dick and Carol Lundin    | 2011 |
| Wally and Kathy Reed     | 2012 |
| Syd and Don Wermlinger   | 2013 |
| Dick and Carol Lundin    | 2019 |
| Mary B. Crofts           | 2019 |
| Roger and Kathy Lintault | 2019 |

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## WILLAMETTE CHAPTER OFFICERS

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Programs Chair: Keith White ...503-559-5796  
Secretary: Mary Crofts.....503-838-4122  
Treasurer: Adele O'Neal.....971-570-0237  
Librarian: Keith White .....503-559-5796  
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Print. & Mail: Mary Ellen Ramseyer -503-689-3733  
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Ali Sarlak.....541-758-9190  
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Past President: Wally Reed  
Web Site Kathy Lintault.....503-434-5472