



Willamette Chapter American Rhododendron Society Newsletter

Volume 4

April 2022

Issue 4



Willamette Chapter ARS
Rhododendron Hillside Garden
Bush Pasture Park

CHAPTER MEETINGS: Due to Covid-19, our current chapter meetings are held online via Zoom on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through May. Socializing begins at 6:30pm, with the meeting and speaker at 7:00pm. The Zoom link is sent via email and listed in the newsletter. This form of meeting will continue until in-person meetings can safely be resumed.

CHAPTER MEETING April 13, 2022



Speaker: John Stephens and
Steve McCormick
Title: *Rhododendrons of
Southern Chile*

Social Time: 6:30pm

Meeting and Program: 7:00pm

Join via Zoom at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81638702170>



Rhododendron
'Yellow Bunny' - a
Vireya hybrid

March Minutes



Mary Crofts Secretary March 16, 2022

Tonight's Zoom meeting started with business instead of our speaker as we actually had some business to attend to. Anne Gross let us know that she still needs volunteers for the Smith Garden. Susan and Paul Doellinger stepped right up for Smith Garden as did Keith White and Mary Ellen Ramseyer, and Ali and Gloria Sarlak (THANK YOU). There are still several more slots to fill. A weekend day from 11 to 4 is a wonderful time to see the garden while you host and meet some new people. Also, talk to Anne re volunteering for the plant sale and book sale at the annual meeting of the ARS in Vancouver (early May).

Our shiny brand-new President, Dana Malby, reminded us to sign up for the Convention. Especially since our District is the host district. Then, speaking as our Treasurer, he said we are still "solvent" but need a new treasurer. A degree in accounting is not required. Please say "yes" if you are asked.

There being no further business, Dana turned the meeting over to our Program Chair, Keith White, to introduce our evening speaker: Jacquelyn Leigh Schroeder, who graduated from Michigan State University with a master's degree in Ecology. And what a Master she is.... Jacquelyn is a Master with her work in rehabilitating native land that we have "Degraded" by our farming and land development pursuits. Jacquelyn's specialty is in bringing land back to its natural state via artful and innovative landscape processes. She (with the sometimes help of her civil engineer life partner) have devised methods of rehabilitation that work not only for small gardens but especially big gardens and large commercial areas, several wineries amongst them. Her program title, hefty as it is, also says it all:

"The Ecological Rehabilitation of Public Parks and Private Landscapes."

Early in her career, Jacquelyn was a Master Gardeners member. There she met many people who had mature gardens but could no longer tend them the way they should be tended. This started her learning how to bring their gardens back to natural native plant landscape balance once again. Her landscaping business has grown to serve smaller private gardens as well as large public or commercial properties. For example, they work with the 150-acre Douglas Fir Forest near Grand Ronde. She removed plants and trees that ecologically didn't belong in that landscape setting. This was done with disturbing as little as possible the "good" native soil. Then when new seeds and plants are replanted, they will be growing in land that has been recovered to the state it was to begin with. Jacquelyn preserves the good native elements, removes the rest, and recovers the ecosystem of native species that used to live in that area.

Jacquelyn would like us to "redefine" our own gardens to reflect the original natural biodiversity of the local area. (Which I think means that we let our own gardens as well as public gardens function as a re-creation of life before we dug it up.) The placement by components which interact to provide food for the birds and (helpful) insects and other wildlife is paramount.

At this point I lost the picture on my laptop and before I could get it back, she had already covered a project reclaiming the land which had been ravaged by a huge burn in California.

Jacquelyn showed us work done world-wide. (And it was here that your secretary realized that she worked not only world-wide, but on a massive scale there as well.) She's worked all over the world. And she had wonderful photographs of her travels. These projects were not just a city block in size but more like the 150-acre scale represented by the Douglas fir forest here.

On Fiji in the city of Suva one park had huge trees shading the area, and under them were planted native plants meant to reflect the landscape that was native. Jacquelyn found that the trees were providing too much shade for the native plants below, thus resulting in poorly grown and weaker and fewer native plants. The crowns of the trees were blessed with abundant epiphytic natives. The successful compromise was to thin the crowns of the trees, allowing more sun on the plants below resulting in an excellent recovery. Eventually the ground plants were as lush as those in the crowns. Also, as a part of this project the artificial barriers around the tree bases were replaced by native landscaping around the tree bases, making a much more pleasant, naturally integrated park.

One of the big projects is not that far from her home in Newberg. On a nearby large property Alexander Oil had once had a petrochemical plant, which had been closed, empty and fenced off. George Fox College wanted the land for a parking lot but instead, it was purchased by Habitat for Humanity to build affordable housing. The land had to be made safe for humans to live on by removing contaminated soil. An additional problem turned out to be drainage. So, Jacquelyn and crew devised "rain gardens" which were able to re-purpose 50% of the rainwater into the land to nourish native plant landscaping, rather than going into the storm sewers.

The rain gardens are really cool. Each home in this project built by Habitat for Humanity has a rain garden. Some of the rain gardens feature raised beds with the correct soil for growing plants that prefer not to be at times submerged, but just "like to get their feet wet". The rain gardens will soak up water from the downspouts, sidewalks and parking lots. Another benefit of rain gardens is that they filter polluted water from these sources, preventing the pollutants from reaching the aquifer.

There are many different steps to building a rain garden. Once built, however, they maintain themselves. Happily, Jacquelyn had lots

of great photos to illustrate her talk. She has also built rain gardens for public areas. One of these involved moving railroad tracks to an alternate site in order to install the rain garden. This site no longer has standing water left on the grass or walkways.

Habitat houses are built by volunteers. Some needy volunteers earn their own new homes by first working a stipulated number of hours. They are paying for their house by volunteering to help build houses for someone else. So instead of money, they each must "donate" 500 hours in Habitat for Humanity building projects.

Another of the Newberg projects involved a green space between George Fox and downtown. You could choose to walk from downtown to the college on a regular sidewalk or you could walk on a raised bridge/walkway above the ground and through the beauty of the ecologically correct brushy (rather than the old sterile) corridor that now is characterized by native diversity that supports wildlife, including the insects needed to round out the food web.

Thank you, Jacquelyn, for a wonderful talk which was also a learning talk. There was much more to her talk. I confess...I've only hit the highlights here,

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Crofts - Secretary - WCARS



Ecoscaping Examples

April Program



Speakers:
**John Stephens and
Steve McCormick**

Topic: *Rhododendrons of Southern Chile*

April 13, 2022 6:30 Social 7:00 Program

Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81638702170>

Meeting ID: 816 3870 2170
One tap mobile
+12532158782,, 81638702170# US (Tacoma)
Dial by your location
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Please join us for a lively program by this powerhouse duo on the Rhododendrons of Southern Chile. John is currently ARS Western Regional VP; Steve is President and Newsletter Editor at the Portland Chapter

A South American travel itinerary in the Fall of 2015 took Steve and John to the "Lake District" of southern Chile. As might have been expected, due to the similar latitude and late November being the southern hemisphere's late Spring, they found many rhododendrons in full bloom and widely distributed. John and Steve will share the observations and research they did on returning home as to the prevalence and origins of rhododendrons in that part of the world. They confirmed no existence of native ericaceous plants other than a small group of gaultheria, although they learned about some species endemic to Chile that perform just as well in the Pacific Northwest.

Partners since 1983, John and Steve retired to the Long Beach Peninsula in 2013. Their careers had taken them from Los Angeles, where they met, to John's home area in western Pennsylvania, followed by Miami, San Antonio and a brief time in Port Angeles before they arrived in Seattle in 1997. John's early

career was spent in university education in geography and cartography and concluded with his position as Executive Director of Continuing and Adult Education at the University of Washington. Steve's career was concentrated in music business marketing and sales and culminated in his position as an Account Executive for CBS Broadcasting. John's early exposure to Latin America, via the Peace Corps in Guatemala, inspired a special interest in travels to Central and South America. Steve and John made Latin America a frequent destination for their travels, including Panama, Bolivia, Venezuela, Argentina, Uruguay, Guatemala, Belize, and Costa Rica. They purchased a retirement property on the Long Beach Peninsula in 2006 which had been part of the former nursery founded by Dr. J. Harold Clarke—3rd president of the ARS and a founding member of the Rhododendron Species Foundation. Their curiosity as to the history of the nursery led them to joining the ARS Portland Chapter. The development of the five acres on Willapa Bay in Long Beach, Washington, included preserving and identifying existing specimen rhododendrons, while integrating new plants collected from Victoria to Eureka, enhancing a woodland garden theme. The project was their most ambitious effort, as amateur gardeners, compared to developing city-size "pocket gardens" during their working years.



**Observe the
brilliance of
this:**

**Embothrium
coccineum**

**"Chilean-
Firebush"**

Goodbye but Never Forgotten

Kathrine Miller Reed
4/9/1941 - 7/9/2020

Wallace Elzie Reed
10/21/1937 - 3/1/2022



How does one begin to document the lives of two amazing individuals and do them justice and not feel like you have “short changed them” somehow. You can list their accomplishments and you can detail their life history but words don’t begin to describe their individual persona - It’s that feeling you get when you meet them and come to know them. Kathy and Wally were both strong individuals in their own right but together they were a “powerhouse” and the right combination to be a major force in whatever they did.

The following is an obituary for both Kathy and Wally submitted by their daughter Lynn Reed Povlson.

Wally was born in Tacoma, Washington to Elzie and Susan (Anderson) Reed. His early days were spent in Okanogan WA, Astoria OR (during WW2), and Longview WA. He graduated RA Long HS in 1955 and started his lifetime of world travels: Panama Canal, Europe, India, Japan, Bhutan, New Zealand. Wally earned Geography degrees from the University of Chicago AB’59, PhD’67 and University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign MA’61. After

starting his teaching career at Duke University (’65-’69), he spent 30 years as an Associate Professor at the University of Virginia with the Environmental Sciences department (1969-2001).

Kathy was born in Salem, Oregon to Ridgely and Wanda (Landon) Miller (along with twin sister Kristine). She spent most of her early years in Salem with a bit of time in Canada and Arizona during the war. She graduated South Salem HS 1959 and received a Sociology degree from the University of Chicago AB’64.

Fitting for a life-long lover of trains, over the 1961 New Year’s weekend Wally met Kathy heading east for 48 hours on the Great Northern Railroad back to school. They courted through the Spring and Summer of 1961, including climbing Mt. St. Helens. (Editors note - a quote from Lynn and Tom Bailey: “Marry Me and We’ll go to Calcutta” and Kathy replied “That is as Good a Proposal as Any”). They had a garden wedding in Salem, OR in 1962 and then promptly set off for Calcutta, India for their first year on a grant to study economic demographics. What a way to start a 58 year marriage! They returned to Chicago and moved to Durham, NC in 1965. They set off again for a year of study in New Delhi, India in 1967 with two babies in tow (Lynn born 1966 and Jim born 1967). Upon their return, Wally bought his beloved 1968 Chevy Impala (which remains in the family to this day). The Reeds moved to Charlottesville, VA in 1969 and lived there until retirement in 2001. Wally served on the Charlottesville school board and the State of Virginia air pollution control board. Kathy pioneered several senior management positions with UVA, including Associate Provost for Management, Finance Offices for the College of Arts & Sciences, and Research Administrator for the Biology Department.

After retiring in 2001, Wally and Kathy returned “home” to Salem OR. There was no slowing down in retirement. Wally became President for Life (Prez-4-Life) with the Willa-

mette Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society and built and planted the Rhododendron Hillside in Bush's Pasture Park. Kathy was treasurer for WCARS. They both were instrumental in helping Salem Parks raise the funds for the bioswale and paving at the SE end of Bush's Pasture Park. Having grown up in and loving the park, Kathy also led the fund raising for the renovation of the Crooked House Play Ground near the Bush House.

Wally initially joined WCARS in 2001 so that he could learn how to take care of the old rhododendrons in his new home. That morphed into President for Life which spanned their 20+ years with WCARS. Wally and Kathy focused on making sure members had fun. Wally's mission was to encourage people, foster learning and have experiences where all could have fun. Kathy focused on organizing and managing the club finances. She also enjoyed hosting many lovely holiday potlucks and other social events.

Wally came about his love for gardening and landscaping honestly. His parents Elzie and Sue Reed were also enthusiastic gardeners and owned a garden shop in Longview, WA in the 1950s. Sue Reed was also president of the Oregon Garden Society during the 1940's. From his mother, Wally learned how tame and shape any bush by tying it down to itself, to love brightly colored flowers and how to landscape. Being a professional floral arranger, she would take Wally and his brother out into the forest to collect skunk cabbage leaves to gild for her super-sized designs. From his father, Wally learned how to grow any veggie or fruit. Over the years, Wally perfected growing mile high okra in VA and copious lettuces and leeks in OR using his system of "role models". For his high school graduation Wally was given a pile of manure from his parents. What a gift!

Kathy also loved gardening, especially designing flower beds and landscapes. She designed several gardens for herself and friends over the years. She also liked vibrant colors and textures. Her love for gardening devel-

oped over the years from her homes in India, the South and the PNW.

Wally and Kathy are survived by brother Clark Reed (Red Deer, Alberta), daughter Lynn Reed (Noel Povlsen), son James Reed (Taunia Finley Reed), granddaughter Emelia Reed, grandson Thor Povlsen, and nephews and nieces in Seattle WA, Calgary and Red Deer Alberta.

Mentor someone, make a friend, plant a veggie patch, cook a meal, or have a beer in their memory.

Lynn Reed Povlson, Daughter



Wally at the Bush Park Hillside Garden. Wally gave a program on "Mapping Your Garden" so I'm imagining his map for the placement of plants is on that clipboard.

Anne Gross met Wally and Kathy when they joined the WCARS chapter in 2001 and submitted this article for the monthly newsletter:

Katherine and Wallace Reed recently returned to Oregon after spending the last 40+ years mainly in North Carolina and Virginia. She was born in Salem and he was born in Tacoma and raised in Astoria. They met on the train from Portland to Chicago when they were in college. In recent years, he was on the faculty at the University of Virginia in the Department of Environmental Services. She toiled as an academic administrator there. They have a son in Eugene and a daughter

in Seattle. Even during their working years, they spent summers in Oregon, staying with family members. They and their children always considered the northwest to be home. Years ago, Katherine and Wallace lived in India for about a year and were impressed with the plants of the region. While living on the East Coast, they hiked in the mountains and were taken by the beauty of the native azaleas. Because of their interest in gardening, a colleague at the university, who is a rhododendron fan, gave them a membership in the ARS. The Reeds live near Bush Park. They are in the process of discovering what is in their new garden and planning changes. As Katherine stated, the garden was a low maintenance garden and she is a gardener who enjoys maintenance. There are several rhododendrons of unknown varieties in their yard, a few of which will need to be transplanted.

—Anne Gross

To build on Anne’s introductory article and the statement that Kathy would like a garden with more maintenance: I visited Kathy in 2020 for a newsletter article on how to get the most value out of the space in your yard and the following are a few pictures from that article.



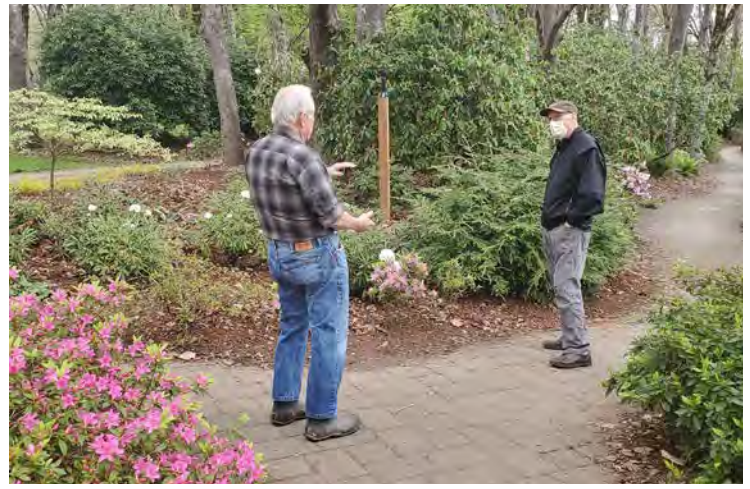
Kathy talked about making the best of your space and she and Wally have certainly done that. Between Kathy and Wally there definitely was a “mapped” garden plot and idea. There was no space that wasn’t accounted for, even if there was nothing it was in the plan.

Tom Beatty recounts his adventures with Wally as they worked together in developing the Hillside Garden:

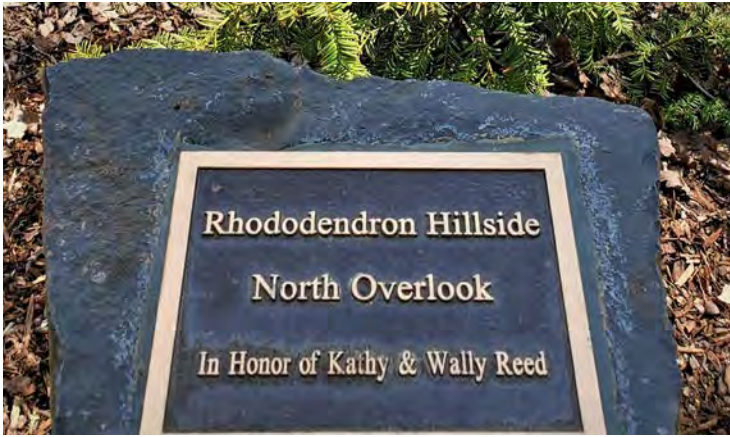
From Dover’s to the North, to Thompson’s to the West. Log Cabin and Gossler’s to the South and Bear Creek to the East we hunted Rhododendrons. I met Wally Reed in 2010 right after the Compton Family of Salem made a donation to the City of Salem to build a garden. This began an easy friendship started at Wally and Kathy’s kitchen table planning and designing Bush’s Pasture Park Rhododendron Hillside Garden in Salem. I dare say if it were not for Wally those assets to the garden may not have been fully achieved. Wally willingly

became the negotiator between the Compton Family and the City of Salem , which helped to keep the partnership running smoothly. But, Wally did not stop there, he was also a volunteer crew leader to many a school, business, church and even inmate labor crews who kept the work on the garden going. Those trips we made together, we always came back with a full truck and unloaded under Wally's carport. Thank You Wally---- RIP
--Tom Beatty

The following pictures are of Kathy and Wally doing what they do best - taking care of their beloved Hillside Garden.



Their participation and leadership in our annual plant sale was invaluable.



Plants for the sale with Wally's prized Chevy Impala in the background



Paul Doellinger tells about one of their first remembrances of Wally:

The one remembrance we have of Wally was his "graciousness". When Susan and I were fairly new to the chapter, we went to one of the dinners before the evening meeting. It was after we had left McGraths and before we started going to the Ram. I can't remember the name of the restaurant, but we were all seated at tables for four or six. We arrived a little late and were sitting alone at a table for four. As we were sitting there alone -- new members who didn't know many people yet -- Wally left his table and came over and sat and ate with us. We both deeply appreciated and still remember his graciousness and how he wanted to make sure that "the new folks" felt accepted and part of the group. We still remember that today.

--Paul Doellinger

We certainly witnessed their graciousness and generosity at every meeting, potluck, auction, road trip, etc. Both Kathy and Wally were busy doing the work so others could enjoy the event.



Kathy could fix a dead moose carcass and it would be delicious!



Wally taking his auctioneering duties seriously.

Kathy and Wally Reed - Both very dynamic people in their own right and dynamic multiplied as a couple.

There is a quote by **Maya Angelou** that I put in the July 2020 WCARS newsletter that I felt described Kathy Reed and as I read it now, I truly feel it applies to both Kathy and Wally:

**My mission in life,
is not merely to survive,
but thrive;
And to do so with some passion,
some compassion,
some humour,
and some style.**

And the quote by **Chuck Palahniuk** that very aptly applies to both Kathy and Wally:

**The Goal Isn't to Live Forever,
It is to Create Something That Will**

And That They Definitely Did!!

Kathy and Wally's children, Lynn and Jim, are planning a Memorial Gathering for both Kathy and Wally on Sunday, May 22 from 11:00am - 2:00pm. All ARS members and friends are invited. It will be a potluck, so please bring a dish to pass. It is a time to remember, reflect, and talk about your times and experiences with Kathy and Wally. They look forward to hearing your stories. The Memorial will be at the Reed's house in Salem. Full details will be included in our May newsletter.

You can read the full obituary for Kathy that was posted in the Statesman Journal at:
<https://www.statesmanjournal.com/obituaries/ssj061651>

The full obituary for Wally is at:
<https://www.statesmanjournal.com/obituaries/ssj061652>

Photos submitted by
Lynn Reed Povlson and
taken from prior WCARS
newsletters



WCARS Annual May Potluck and Auction

Finally, after a 2-year raincheck it's going to take place!



Now, imagine John Poole playing "Sunny Side of the Street" on his piano while you're whistling and singing along. Picture Fred Astaire or Gene Kelly dancing.



**Grab Your Coat
And Grab Your Hat**



**Leave Your Worries on the Doorstep
Just Direct Your Feet
To the Landers Sunny Retreat**

**Mark the Date for May 14
Arrive at Noon for Time to Meet & Greet
Life Will Be So Sweet
At the Landers Sunny Retreat**

**You Can Walk in the Shade
With the Rhodies on Display
Rather Ride and Save Your Feet
There's a Ranger - Knows No Stranger**

**Bring a Dish to Share and Eat
Bring a Plant or 2 to Auction
Laugh and Move Your Feet
At the Landers Sunny Retreat**

Yes, after a 2 year hiatus, the May Potluck and Auction is back on the calendar and Roger and Karen Landers are ready for us to visit. The date is Saturday, May 14. Plan to arrive at noon and bring a dish to pass. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. After 2 years, we need to replenish our coffers, so bring several plants to auction and plan to buy more to take home. Make it a goal to bring a friend or two who need plants as well. The address is 7772 Pudding Creek Dr. SE. Detailed information in the May newsletter.

Portland Chapter Zoom Program April 21, 2022



Speaker: Seth Menser

Topic: *South Pacific Paradise-Flora of New Caledonia and Lord Howe Island*

Social Time 6:30pm Program time 7:00pm

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89487327728>

Meeting ID: 894 8732 7728

One tap mobile:

+12532158782, 98487327728#

Dial Option: (253) 215-8782

The islands of Lord Howe and New Caledonia are everything you'd hope from a South Pacific paradise. Tropical weather, swaying palm trees, sandy beaches, and crystal-clear waters. What makes these islands so spectacular is the rare and endemic flora that has evolved on these isolated islands, situated in the biggest ocean in the world. Seth will explore the botanic treasures of the French territory of New Caledonia and Australia's volcanic, Lord Howe Island.

Seth Menser is the Horticulture Manager at the Oregon Zoo. Previously he served as Parks Supervisor for Portland Parks and Recreation, overseeing Washington Park, including the International Rose Test Garden and Hoyt Arboretum. Prior to returning home to Oregon in 2016, he spent over a decade at the San Diego Zoo, serving as Horticulture Supervisor. During his career at the San Diego Zoo, he worked closely with various government agencies across Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia, Costa Rica, and Hawaii on conservation projects. Seth is a native of Florence, City of Rhododendrons, on the Oregon Coast.



Easter is the only time of the year to put all your eggs in one basket.

Last Chance! There's still room for you



The Stewart Garden (formerly Dover Nursery)

This Thursday tour includes a visit with catered lunch at the **Stewart Garden**, formerly Dover Nursery, where Mike and Maria have been installing new beds, boulders, and beautiful trees and plants over several years for the occasion—not to be missed.

We're getting down to the wire!

You're wanted on board for the long-awaited 75th (plus 2) ARS Anniversary Convention. There's still room on the tours, in the hotel, in the special meetings and banquets. If you're in the local area, please register and attend one or more of the events. All on Saturday, daytime, are free with registration—the morning clinics and afternoon sessions with three excellent speakers: Juliana Medeiros, Steve Krebs, Valerie Soza. Check out the [schedule](#). The **Plant & Book Sale** will have wonderful plants and an amazing collection of books (three lists on the [website](#)).



Sebright Gardens, Woodburn Nursery: also new to northwest conventions. And the pre-tour and post-tour are both packed with destinations sure to thrill plant lovers.



And just in case you think you've "been there, done that" – the chance to tour **Iseli Nursery** (Thursday) is a rare one. This is one of the most outstanding conifer displays and collections in the world (above).

Heard about the development of **Portland Botanical Gardens**? **Sean Hogan** is now on the schedule for Rhododendrons of Cascadia on Sunday morning.



Dan Hinkley is [scheduled for talks](#) on Thursday and Saturday. You're probably aware what a treasure he is to the northwest plant world. Thursday evening he'll be talking about the development of his own garden, and his book recently published, *Windcliff*. As one of the intrepid plant explorers, he'll be sharing his 22 years of botanizing in Vietnam at the Saturday lunch—a nice balance to Steve Hootman's treks seeking species rhodies there.

Join your rhody friends! We are under-booked (about half of the number registered in 2020), so we would really appreciate your support. Registration & details at www.ars2022.org

Submitted by Steve McCormick, ARS 2022 Convention Co-Chair



Road Trip!

On Saturday, April 23rd our chapter is going to make a garden tour to the Eugene-Springfield area. We are going to visit three destinations.

Gossler Farms Nursery in Springfield is our first stop. Gossler's is famous for growing and selling the best forms of many species. They are famous for their magnolias, but they have much more. You can view an online catalog at www.gosslerfarms.com. We will spend about an hour. But it will likely be hard to drag people away.



After Gossler's, we will enjoy a BYO picnic lunch on the patio at our next stop which is **Rocky Knoll Farm (Jack Olson's place)**. Jack has offered his back patio for us to enjoy our lunch before his garden. Jack has been first place in multiple categories in many rhododendron truss shows over the years. You may recall that Jack gave us a great presentation during the last season we had "live" meetings. He is outspoken, being a "Myth-buster" of horticulture fables. He has a unique and well planned out garden with many companion plants as well. Jack tells me he has low growing small hybrids of distinguished parentage that can take strong sunlight and heat. He will have these on sale. Jack is also an old car buff and restorer. So, we may get a bonus auto tour.



Third stop will be **Hendricks Park** in Eugene. This is the premier rhododendron garden in Eugene. In size and design and diversity of Rhododendrons it compares with Crystal Springs, in Portland. You may recall that rhododendron garden director Emily Aune gave us a great Zoom program this past January. If you would like to see this show again, the Zoom recording link is **Topic: The History of Hendricks Park and the Rhododendron Garden, Eugene, OR**.

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/iBqk3SydiOO_j4Ikjjz58Xckx9e3U-3kz57apzAPIDj2AdoAVBo4JoaPIO5T-vdib5.ubBFTYGSrhhOiUIe

You can click on the link to review the program. Realize that the recording has a half hour of chat before the program starts, so you may want to "Fast Forward" through that.



Our Board, at the last meeting agreed to encourage everyone to bring a friend(s), especially if they might be potential members of WCARS. And if they like the garden tours, invite them to the May Potluck and Plant Auction.

The simplest plan for car pooling is for those of us who would be willing to drive and those who would rather ride to just respond to Keith White at rhodoc@msn.com. That way we can sort it out ahead of time. Some members may require a pick-up at their residence.

I favor a rendezvous at 9 AM at the parking lot in front of the Wally and Kathy Reed Home. We are considering a secondary rendezvous at 9:30 at the park and ride just off the Sunnyside-Turner exit from the I-5 freeway (this is the next exit after Keubler if you are going south on I-5). Take a right onto Delaney Road then a quick left onto Squirrel Hill Rd. Park at the adjacent park and ride lot just downhill from the Pacific Pride station. This is a relatively safe place to leave your vehicle as is the parking in front of the Reed home.

- Keith White

The following are just a couple of plants currently blooming in the Ramseyer/White garden.



(A) Pink camellia, with "sport" from a branch
(B) The Yulan. *Magnolia denudata*



A Podcast for Rhododendron Enthusiasts "For the Love of Rhododendron"

If you are looking for something new to listen to before our spring gardens draw us outdoors, perhaps you'd like to check out the podcasts that have been produced by The Next Generation Program of the American Rhododendron Society. To date there are ten episodes available, generally an hour in length. Each episode focuses on an individual and the remarkable things that they have done all "For the Love of Rhododendron". You can listen to the episodes by visiting the ARS Next Gen web page at https://www.rhododendron.org/next_gen_podcasts.htm and clicking on the title of the episode you would like to hear ... or the episodes can be downloaded to your smart device via the iTunes or Spoti-fy app. **The goal of the ARS Next Generation Program is to attract and prepare the next generation of rhododendron experts by making ARS resources more visible and accessible to students, young scientists and horticulturists.**

This article copied by permission from **Dana Manion**, newsletter Editor for the Eugene Chapter ARS.



The original mother plant of Double Winner at the Smith Garden on Monday March 28

April Rose is the Flower for April



Slightly fragrant and exceptionally cold hardy, Rhododendron 'April Rose' is prized for its early spring blooms. This semi-dwarf evergreen shrub bears elegant, widely funnel-shaped, double, purplish-red flowers up to 2 in. wide (5cm), at the branch tips, in early to mid spring. The foliage of elliptic, flat, deep green leaves warms up to reddish-bronze in fall. Rhododendron 'April Rose' results from a cross between (minus Carolinianum group x mucronulatum 'Cornell Pink') x (white flowered dauricum x dauricum). A very reliable performer, this Lepidote Rhododendron is tough and can withstand temperatures as low as -25F (-31C). It makes a lovely accent shrub that is pleasing to the eye.

* Grows with a broad upright habit, up to 3-4 ft. tall and wide (90-120cm)

* A sun to part shade lover, this plant is easily grown in moist, acidic, humusy, well-drained soils. Tolerates a fair amount of sun in cool northern summers. Plant shallowly in a location protected from strong winter winds. Protect from frost to prevent damage to flowers. Mulch annually with leaf mould to retain moisture, control weeds, and cool the soil.

* Perfect for shrub borders or mixed borders, as a flowering hedge or privacy screen, foundation plantings and shade gardens. Great for small gardens too!

* Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds and birds.



Predominant Flower Color: Red

Flower/Truss Description: Flower widely funnel-shaped, double, 1½" to 2" across, lightly fragrant, abundant and vivid red.

Fragrant: Yes slightly

Bloom Time: Early

Foliage Description / Plant Habit: Leaves elliptic, flat, 2" - 4" long, deep green, retained 2-3 years. Foliage has burnished red tones during fall and winter. Broadly upright habit.

Height: 3 feet in 10 years.

Cold Hardiness Temp: -25°F (-32°C)

Parentage (Seed Parent x Pollen Parent):
(minus Carolinianum Group x mucronulatum 'Cornell Pink') x (white flowered dauricum x dauricum)

Elepidote (E) or Lepidote (L): L

Hybridized or Selected by: Mehlquist

Registration Reference: ARS 892

Plant information obtained from the American Rhododendron Society website, Harold Greer's "Greer's Guidebook to Available Rhododendrons" and Gardenia, Creating Gardens website.

Online Shopping and the ARS Store - A Reminder to Help

Anytime you shop online for just about anything, please consider first going through the American Rhododendron Society Online Store. The ARS Online Store is reached by the link <http://arsstore.org/>

On this **site you will find** a range of merchants who have agreed to give the American Rhododendron Society a referral fee back on each sale "referred" by ARSStore.org. Just use a link from the ARS Online Store site to go to a merchant's site and buy something like you normally would. You get the same low price and help the ARS.

MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS

EUGENE CHAPTER

Third Wednesday from Oct to March at 7:30pm
The Springs at Greer Gardens, 1280 Goodpasture Island Rd, Eugene, OR

PORTLAND CHAPTER

Third Thursday from Sept to May at 7:00pm
All Saints Episcopal Church, 4033 SE Woodstock Ave, Portland, OR

SALEM HARDY PLANT SOCIETY

First Tuesday from Oct 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

TUALATIN VALLEY CHAPTER

First Tuesday from Sept to April (except for Jan) at 6:45pm
Washington County Fire District 2, 31370 NW Commercial Street, North Plains, OR

DISTRICT 4 CHAPTER WEB SITES

Willamette Chapter arswillamette.com
Eugene Chapter eugene-chapter-ars.org
Portland Chapter rhodies.org
Siuslaw Chapter siuslawars.org
Tualatin Valley tualatinvalleyars.org

All other web sites can be found on rhododendron.org
Under "chapters" under web sites

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
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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 Werminger	2013
Dick and Carol Lundin	2019
Mary B. Crofts	2019
Roger and Kathy Lintault	2019

WILLAMETTE CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: Dana Malby503-393-6463
V-President:
Programs Chair: Keith White ...503-559-5796
Secretary: Mary Crofts.....503-838-4122
Treasurer: To Be Filled
Librarian: Keith White503-559-5796
Newsletter
Editor: Mary Ellen Ramseyer503-689-3733
Print. & Mail: Mary Ellen Ramseyer - 503-689-3733
Board Members:
Tom Bailey503-364-7741
Bill Vagt503-581-8654
Susan Doellinger503-838-4884
Greeter Susan Doellinger.....503-838-4884
Past President: Wally Reed503-588-3666
Web Site Kathy Lintault.....503-434-5472