

Willamette Chapter American Rhododendron Society Newsletter

Volume 4

October 2022

Issue 7



CHAPTER MEETINGS: Our current chapter meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through May. Socializing begins at 6:30pm, with the meeting and speaker at 7:00pm. Due to Covid 19, our meeting may be in person or via Zoom. Meeting information will be sent to members via email and available in this newsletter. This form of meeting will continue until more permanent plans are made.

CHAPTER MEETING October 12, 2022



Speaker: *Colin Tamboline* Pres. of the Victoria Regional Lily Society

Title: Lilium for Rhododendron Lovers

Social Time: 6:30pm Meeting and Program: 7:00pm Join via Zoom at: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/i/83162838484</u>



Denali Hwy, Alaska September 2022





Clear Lake, Santiam Pass 9/26/2022

September Minutes



Meeting photos by Ali Sarlak

We met at Bush Park in Salem, for our first meeting of the rhododendron year. The evening was wonderful...warm, not hot, with a gentle little breeze around us. No chapter business at this meeting. Just a small, happy group enjoying the early Fall weather and each other and a potluck supper as well. We stuffed ourselves on the goodies everyone had brought and then settled back in our lawn chairs to listen to our speaker of the day.

While we were eating pasta salad and homemade apple pie, a tall, slender gentleman was wandering around with a bag picking up various weeds here and there. He spread them all out on top of one of the picnic tables and then Keith White, Program Chair and All-Around Do It Guy, introduced the stranger as our evening's entertainment. He was Brian Smith, the Project Co-Ordinator for Salem Parks as well as Horticulturist for the City of Salem. His talk was about the familiar weeds of the Willamette Valley and ways to get them out of our gardens...hopefully forever.

The weeds he'd bagged were his props.



(1) **Tansy Ragwort** (love that name) was up first with its cheery yellow flowers that are almost sudden death to animals, especially horses. Farmers and ranchers hate it, even if it is really pretty to look at. Round-Up or something like it works well if it's sprayed on the plants just as they are about to bloom. Anne Gross had a different method for controlling Tansy. She beheads the plants, bags the flower heads and disposes of them, then sprays the plant with crossbow, as it doesn't kill the grass, just the plant.



Tansy Ragwort

(2) **Blackberries** (the "bad" kind that takes over any piece of land that has nothing else growing on it. Spray in the spring when the flowers are just about to burst into bloom. Keith has good luck with cutting the vine to 1-2" and then applying a drop of Crossbow.



Blackberry Vine

(3) **Deciduous azaleas:** Not to kill the **plant** but instead to wipe out the Azalea Soft Fly which eats the plant for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Captain Jack's Dead Bug spray should do the trick.

(4) **Oxalis** - a pesky clover-like plant. You can spray them, but the problem is in the roots, which "go to China" according to Brian. The best way to kill them is to starve them. No water. Covered with something so the plants can't get any water, sun, etc.

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(5) **Morning Glory** (not Morning Glory bought at a nursery). They respond well to herbicides, but unless the root is removed, they'll come back. Smothering doesn't work well with Morning Glory like it does with Oxalis. To protect nearby plants, stuff the vine in a can then spray with herbicide



(6) **Canadian Thistle:** Pull plants out by their roots as soon as possible. They have very long roots, some reaching as long as 39 feet.



(7) **Laurel** (the kind that grows 10 feet tall, 10 feet wide, and 10 feet deep. Keith has had good luck with cutting them down until just a bit of plant is poking out of the ground. Then he applies a drop of Crossbow.



(8) **Herb Robert**: It's featured in wild flower books and was even on a wild flower stamp a great number of years ago. Their roots run deep and sort of "wildly", so it's hard to pull up the entire plant. Smothering the plants works the best. Your Secretary has had a lot of experience with Robert and I've found that if you pull them out of your beds the second the flower appears, you usually won't see that plant again.



(9) **Non-native Milkweed**: Spray when the large seed pods appear.



Non-native Milkweed

(10) **Horsetail**: Really difficult to get rid of since, as Brain said, the horsetail has been around since before dinosaurs.

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Brian had other weeds and herbicides but I have to admit it...I was in apple pie heaven. and my brain was sort of drifting by then. I'm pretty sure Keith remembers the rest of the talk. Just what was in those apple pies??? We disbanded as the sun was setting, better prepared mentally to "go to war" with our favorite weeds. We have all winter to make our plans and all next spring to try them out. But I have to admit it...being with my rhody friends was the highlight of the day.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Crofts - Secretary - WCARS

Editorial Note from Keith White:

Brian advised that a good way to get rid of large expanses of weeds and/or around critical plants is to lay down cardboard over weedy areas then cover with 2-3" of mulch.



Keith introducing Brian Smith to a captive audience of weed detesters



Stand back from the deadly weed killer



I hope none of those weeds fell on the ground to start a catastrophic infestation



A beautiful rhododendron in the Hillside Garden

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Ali took this picture of the "Guidance of Youth" statue at Bush Park, which prompted me to look up the history of the statue and this is what I found:

This photo is of statue called "Guidance of Youth" at Bush Pasture Park on Mission Street in Salem. It was erected in 1959 to commemorate the 100th year of statehood. It is the result of a bequest from Carroll L. Moores, a janitor at the Supreme Court Building, to the City of Salem in memory of the early Oregon pioneers. The first choice for the memorial was a nude woman called ""Venus Victorieuse"", which was unacceptable to the public, and this statue was the result of a contest for another subject. It depicts a father carrying a hoe, and a mother and young son dressed for their trek to a new land. The statue faces east!



R. 'Halloween Candy'



October 12, 2021 6:30 Social 7:00 Program

Zoom:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83162838484

Meeting ID: 831 6283 8484 One tap mobile +12532158782,,83162838484# US (Tacoma) Dial by your location +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

The picture above is of Colin with the 'Novice Cup' from the VIRAGS (Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Garden Society) spring show 2022

Colin's Biography:

I have gardened all my adult life. I got my PhD in Developmental Biology from UVic in 1990, and my MD from UBC in 1991.

I have been a family physician in Sidney, BC from 1992 to 2022, and am now fully retired from practice. My wife and I have three kids and four grandkids.

I have been obsessed with Lilium since about 1998, and since semi-retiring in 2017 I've been spending more time on hybridizing lilies. I also love native Island plants, Iris and peonies and orchids and rhodos, and more recently bog plants and alpines.

I have been a member of the Victoria Lily Society since 2002, and President since 2019. I belong to a number of other local and international garden societies.

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I live and garden on a rocky one acre lot in North Saanich, B.C. with lots of 120 foot second growth Douglas Fir, Arbutus, Garry Oak, and Erythronium oregonum surrounding my lily, rhododendron, and perennial beds.



Colin and his wife in Nepal in 2017



OT hybrid 'Black Beauty'



'Zeba' a second generation Lilium nepalense X Oriental hybrid.



OT `Leslie Woodriff' with `White Henryi' in the foreground.



Martagon Lily, 'Claude Shride'



Lilium speciosum 'Uchida'



Martagon 'Mrs. R.O.Backhouse'

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President's Report

Fall is coming.

I hope everyone has had a good year so far.

After riding the rails in Canada on the Rocky Mountaineer for about a week, I'm now getting my land legs back. No more wandering down the grocery aisles like an inebriated person.

I missed a great program and potluck at September's in-person meeting.

The Board met earlier in September and recommended two items that need to be voted on at this month's Zoom meeting:

(1) Expenditure of 500 dollars for our associate membership to the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden.

(2) Expenditure of 600 dollars for use by the program chair for ensuring the presentation of programs for our chapter meetings and other meetings for the chapter for 2022-23.

We will plan to hold a short meeting prior to the start of the program at 7:00 to allow for voting and discussion of other business so please join the Zoom program at 6:30pm.

Adele O'Neal has volunteered to be our WCARS Treasurer. According to our Chapter By-Laws, she must be voted in by a majority of the Board members. I will schedule a Board meeting for that vote prior to our Chapter meeting on October 12.

Our Chapter also needs to replace a board position that was held by the late Dr. Thomas Bailey. Do we have any volunteers? I have included our annual financial report for the members to view. Our credit union statement as of 9/29/2022 is:

Business Membership is 3318.27 Business Checking is 1521.97

At the first of September I sent out self-addressed stamped envelopes for your annual membership renewal to the Willamette chapter American Rhododendron Society. As of this date over 50% of our members have renewed for 2022-23.

If you haven't yet renewed, please do so for the great programs and quarterly bulletins! Make sure that your check is made out to the **Willamette Chapter American Rhododendron Society** as our MAPS Credit Union **will not accept checks made out WCARS.** If you did not receive an envelope but would like to renew as a Member or Associate Member, please indicate your designation, write a check to **Willamette Chapter American Rhododendron Society, (NOT WCARS)** for the appropriate amount and mail to:

Willamette Chapter ARS C/O Dana Malby, Treasurer 3910 Brooks Ave. NE Salem, OR 97303-4024

Member Renewal for 1 or 2 people at the same address: \$40 Associate Renewal: \$10 (Must have a Home Membership in another chapter)

If anyone has a question or needs an explanation of the letter I sent out this last September regarding membership renewal, you can call me at 503-480-9807, or e-mail me at tdsamal@msn.com.

Dana Malby - WCARS Pres.

RENEW NOW - IT'S FOR THE GOURD OF THE ARS AND OUR CHAPTER!





Willamette Chapter American Rhododendron Society				
Annual Financials September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022				
Beginning Balances - September 1, 2021				
Business Membership Account		\$3,317.60		
Checking Account	\$1,387.79			
Credit from National	\$70.00			
NCOME				
Membership dues	\$1,295.00			
Donation to Chapter	\$50.00			
Business Membership Account Interest	\$50.00	\$0.67		
Fruss Show	\$0.00	\$0.07		
Miscellaneous Meeting Auction	\$0.00			
Plant Sales TOTAL INCOME	\$1,005.00	<u>+0</u> C7		
	\$2,350.00	\$0.67		
XPENSES				
Dues Paid to National	\$1,025.00			
Pay Pal Expense	\$10.00			
Speaker expenses	\$200.00			
Rent to church	\$0.00			
lewsletter expenses	\$0.00			
Zoom Membership	\$149.90			
iability insurance	\$69.00			
1embership RSF	\$100.00			
Donations to RSF	\$400.00			
Memorial donations, RSF, ARS	\$0.00			
Donations ARS General Fund	\$0.00			
Donations, ARS Research Fund	\$0.00			
December Potluck	\$0.00			
May Potluck	\$0.00			
Summer Potluck	\$0.00			
Coffee for Meetings	\$0.00			
Awards	\$0.00			
Misc. Supplies (Cable)	\$50.00			
Office Supplies	\$71.45			
Postage for Renewal Notices	\$23.20			
Truss Show Expenses	\$161.27			
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,259.82	\$0.00		
NET (Income Less Expenses)	\$90.18	\$0.67		
Ending Balances - August 31, 2022				
Business Membership Checking	\$1,477.97	\$3,318.27		

Whistle While You Work

Smith Garden Fall Work Day

The Smith Garden Fall work day is Saturday, October 22. Start around 8am, or when ever you can manage, and work as long as you want. Bring gloves and your favorite hand tools, rakes, etc. There are chores for all skill levels. Tom will once again be our expert supervisor and will post his list of jobs to be done in order of priority somewhere around the garage entrance.

A lunch of sandwiches and chips will be provided. Bring your own food items to supplement or enough to share with others.

The extended weather forecast calls for partly sunny to cloudy skies and a high in the 60's. Perfect weather for working in the garden. And even though we don't have a convention in the spring as incentive to participate, this garden is part of our chapter's Legacy for future generations so we need to do our part to maintain it's beauty - and believe me, you will feel so good about what you accomplished at the end of the day. Please mark your calendar, come out, put in some hard work and enjoy seeing old friends. You can emphasize the fun, rather than the monotony of the work by Whistling While You Work

Whistling While You Work,



Lyrics

Just whistle while you work

And cheerfully together we can tidy up the place So hum a merry tune

It won't take long when there's a song to help you set the pace

This is also a good opportunity to visit the garden. The address to the Cecil and Molly Smith Garden is 5055 Raybell Road NE, St. Paul, OR 97137. Directions at <u>www.smithgarden.org/Map.html</u>

More October Conference Opportunities

Siuslaw Chapter October 18, 2022

The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet Tuesday, October 18th at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3669 Highway 101 in Florence, 6:30 for refreshments, 7:00 for the meeting.

Jack Olson from Rocky Knoll Farm will be the guest speaker and his program will be about his favorite rhododendrons and why they are his favorites - complete with many pictures.

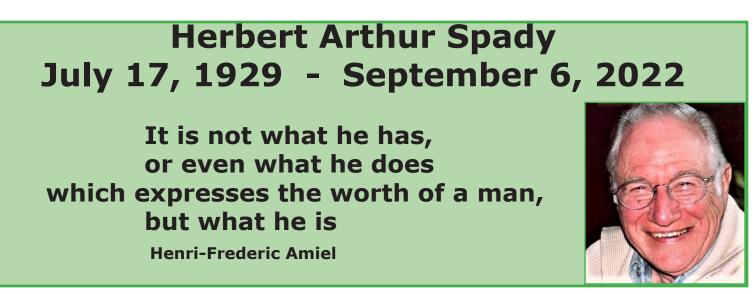
Pre-Meeting Dinner 5:00 pm at Ixtapa 1015 Hwy 101, Florence. Call or email Sandi Hennig at 541-997-2489 or flendish42@gmail. com to reserve your place at the dinner table! Be there for great fun, great food, & great company.

Portland Chapter October 20, 2022

The Portland Chapter will meet on Thursday, October 20 at the Reedwood Friends Church, 2901 SE Steele St, Portland, OR 97202 (Just up the street from the Crystal Springs Rhododendron Gaarden). Social time 6:30 pm; Meeting 7:00 pm.

This month's program is a movie called "Pushed up the Mountain" which is a storyabout rhodies in China, and efforts by rhododendron enthusiasts around the world to preserve them.

The pre-meeting get together is at 5:00 pm at the Woodstock Wine and Deli at 2901 SE Steele St, Portland, OR 97202



The following obituary was written by Herb's son Kevin:

It is with deep sadness we note our father, Dr. Herbert Arthur Spady, age 93, of Salem, Oregon passed away peacefully on Tuesday, September 6, 2022.

Dad was born July 17, 1929, in Portland, Oregon to George and Lucretia (Gapsch) Spady. After high school, he attended the University of Oregon and Washington University, receiving his bachelor's degree in 1951 and ultimately his medical doctorate in 1955, dedicating a career as an orthopedic surgeon for over 30 years in Salem, Oregon. He served honorably in the Navy in San Diego after completing his medical residency.

He married Betty Jeane Worthey in 1955 and together they raised three children. After Betty passed away in 2002, he remarried Edith Pledger in 2005. Dad is survived by his wife Edith, his children Kevin (Shirley), George (Anne), and Kimberly (Rick), 12 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Dad was passionate about rhododendrons. He loved working outdoors and growing beautiful things, developing two beautiful personal rhododendron gardens during his life. He was a champion of preserving, hybridizing, and developing the rhododendron species and served as president of the Willamette Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society and the president of the Rhododendron Species Foundation. He was a committed volunteer at the Cecil and Molly Smith and Crystal Spring Gardens, devoting countless hours to ensuring these special places remain for future generations.

A memorial service for our father will be held Saturday, October 29, 2022 at 11:00 AM at Howell, Edwards, Doerksen with Ridgon-Ransom Funeral Directors, 1350 Commercial Street SE, Salem, OR.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at **www.hed-fh.com** for the Spady family.

Editorial Comment: I have Kevin's permission to print what he wrote on his Facebook page: Our dear father passed away this week. Dad was a huge influence on my life and taught me many things, mostly by example. He taught me the love of nature, love of beautiful things, love of photography, love of solitude, the value of hard work and creating things with my hands, love of painting, love of building models, and the value of patience amongst many things. He was

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always a taskmaster with a gentle soul. I will miss you very much Dad.

To those of you who knew Herb, I think you would agree that he was a taskmaster with a **gentle soul.**

Keith White wrote the following about Herb:

It is with sadness and good memories that I inform you that Herb Spady born July 17th1929, passed away this month on Tuesday, September 6th at the age of 93.

I write this obituary from my perspective, since Herb was my "Rhododendron Godfather" (perhaps others feel this way about Herb, as well as Betty, their godmother). Herb was "A Man For All Seasons" with many contacts. Thus, I am certain to leave out many important facets known by others.

I met he and Betty at their home and nursery (titled Honsuchachac, the native name for the Little Pudding River, which flowed through their property). He was a member of our Willamette chapter as well as the Portland Chapter. We went to Sikkim together in 1992. Herb nominated me for a position on the Board of Directors of the Rhododendron Species Foundation in the mid '80s. He was also the president of the RSF and from 1995-1997 was president of the ARS , collaborating with Scotland Chapter ARS member, Mervyn Kessel, to bring the '96 ARS Annual Meeting to Oban, Scotland that year. He was on the ARS Board as well as the RSF Board for many years.

Herb was a good author. He wrote many articles for the Journal ARS as well as authoring "The Rhododendron Species Dictionary", a book I could not find in my book case because it was on my desk along with other frequently used references. He has 7 ½ pages in Google (referred through the ARS website) citing his descriptions of species and hybrids used in the ARS website. He also contributed countless photographs to the ARS and the archives of the RSF (now officially "The Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden).

Herb (and Betty) were appreciated by the ARS, both having been presented with their highest honor, the Gold Medal, Herb in 1991 and Betty 2001. Herb and Betty were both awarded bronze medals (the highest chapter honor) by the Portland and Willamette (Salem) Chapters of the ARS.

Herb was full of wisdom. He was always able to see the humor (or irony) in in situations. Early in my rhododendron career Herb pointed out to me the fact that the color of a rhododendron in a publication was not reliably the real color. On commenting to Herb that we had enough volunteers for a project, he told me that "The road to Hell is paved with good intentions." That struck me as very true, as applied to myself. I have always remembered and go by that after and before I volunteer for anything. Any time spent with Herb was good time. He was a good guy to have around when a problem needed solving, including engineering tasks.

Regarding time, Herb gave a lot of it, He was a volunteer who was not afraid to get his hands dirty. He and Bob Grasing spent many a Monday managing and mending the Cecil and Molly Smith Garden. He made heavy aluminum ID tags (riveted on to major limbs) for the Crystal Spring Garden in Portland as well as numbered tags for the plants in the Smith Garden. He was integral to mapping Crystal Springs and the Smith Garden. These maps were printed and available. I used them both to ID plants in both gardens. The Smith Map is still handed out to visitors of the Smith Garden.

I also knew Herb as a medical colleague. I am a family physician and Herb was a well-respected Orthopedic surgeon in Salem. I enjoyed referring patients to him and used the orthopedic advice he gave me when needed.

Editorial note from Keith White:

Herb's memorial service will be on OCTOBER 29th at 11:00am at:

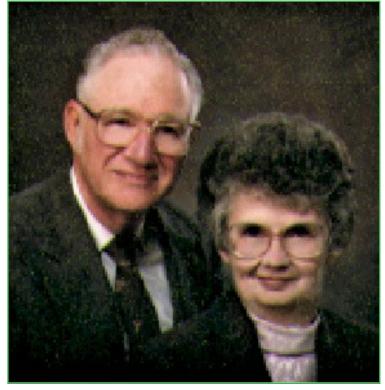
HOWELL EDWARDS DOERKSEN FUNERAL HOME 1530 COMMERCIAL ST SE SALEM, OR 97302 503-581-3911

Herb's son, Kevin, would like me to collect the RSVP's from the ARS and RSBG members in order for him to judge the size of the room needed for the memorial. So please respond to <u>rhodoc@msn.com</u> with your RSVP if you intend to attend.

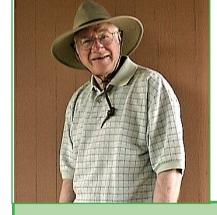
The following are some picture submitted by Kevin Spady



Family



Herb and Betty Spady



A picture titled: "New Duds"

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arswillamette.com

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Herb looking very happy on this tractor - his yard and garden was a "Happy Place"



Herb and Edy



Herb looking very comtemplative

There are many more great pictures on Kevin Spady's facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=5647360518654360&set=pcb.5647419585315120

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Rhododendron Honsus's Baby is the Flower for October

Hybridized by Herb Spady



Photo by Herb Spady

Predominant Flower Color: Pink

Flower/Truss Description: Flower widely funnel-shaped, wavy edges, 1%" across, white with pale purplish-pink margins. Held in conical trusses of 4 flowers.

Fragrant: No

Bloom Time: Early Midseason

Foliage Description / Plant Habit:

Leaves ovate, convex, acute apex, rounded base, 1%" long. Compact, mounding habit.

Height: 2 feet in 10 years.

Cold Hardiness Temp: 5°F (-15°C)

Parentage (Seed Parent x Pollen Parent):

keiskei 'Yaku Fairy' x scabrifolium var spiciferum

Elepidote (E) or Lepidote (L): L

Hybridized or Selected by: Spady

Registration Reference: ARS 874

From Rocky Knoll Farm:

Delightful little Honsu's Baby is an adorable dwarf hybrid rhododendron showing off masses of white blossoms with magenta, pink and purple margins. The blooms are very prolific, especially for a plant that only grows to about 1' tall. When you can find this cultivar available (it is pretty uncommon but we are proud to have it at Rocky Knoll Farm), it makes an excellent choice for small growing areas, rock gardens, potted growth, and accent placement. Also a great choice for planting multiples that put on quite a show.

Give full sun to partial shade and watch for blooms early mid-season depending on growing conditions (our bloom photos were taken at the beginning of April). The attractive leaves are small, convex and have a scaly texture for great character. Hardy to 5°F when protected from windchill, plant in full sun to partial shade.



Photo by Rocky Knoll Farm

Harold Greer describes Honsu's Baby as masses of white flowers with margins of pale purplish pink emerge from strong pink buds to cover this spreading plant. The leaves are convex and scaly. It is a beautiful, low growing plant. When flowering, it blooms so profusely, you can't tell that it has leaves.



Photo by Harold Greer

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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 <u>http://arsstore.org/</u>

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 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

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

All other web sites can be found on **rhododendron.org** Under "chapters" under web sites **ARS BULLETINS** are available online at: <u>http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/JARS/</u>

WILLAMETTE CHAPTER ARS AWARDS HISTORY - 1978 to 2019

GOLD ----

Herb Spady	1991
Betty Spady	2001

SILVER ----

Richard "Dick" Cavendar 2003

BRONZE ----

June Brennan Jason Ashford Constance Hansen Betty Spady Bob Grasing Sharon Leopold Wilbur Bluhm Chuck and Maxine Dehn Keith White Helen Malby Anne Gross Dick and Carol Lundin	1987 1990 1991 1991 2002 2006 2006 2007 2008 2009 2011
,	
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

WILLAMETTE CHAPTER OFFICERS

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