

# Willamette Chapter American Rhododendron Society Newsletter

Volume 2

Issue 6



**There's No Special Reason  
For This Newsletter.....  
It's Just To Say "Hi"  
And Stay In Touch.....**



# WCARS May Potluck and Plant Sale

## Mary Crofts - Secretary

Our Newsletter Editor, Mary Ellen Ramseyer, asked me to do a short write up on our annual May potluck and plant sale. This is something I usually don't do, but being the persuasive person that she is and needing something to fill this newsletter, I agreed to help her out.

First, a BIG Thanks to Roger and Karen Landers for hosting the event. We've all been intrigued over the years as to what their garden looks like since they often win the plant at the monthly club raffle and Karen's hand is usually first up at any auction, including the annual potluck's "biggie". (I've often wondered if Roger is trying to hold her other hand down, in case she puts both up and gets two plants instead of just the one she's bidding on.)



**Roger guarding the "bidding paddle" which appears to be #1. Karen is seriously studying the plants to be auctioned and even has a plant book for reference. The other participants only have wine or beer for their reference.**

We weren't disappointed. The results of all Karen's bidding and Roger's digging and planting was spectacular!! Especially their rhodies. They had about 10 "big leaf" rhodies lined up neatly in front of their house, and about as many on all other sides, forming a display of blooms and trusses the likes of which no one has ever seen. At least by any WCARS members. (The following are just a very small sampling.)



**R. hodgsonii**



**R. sinogrande**

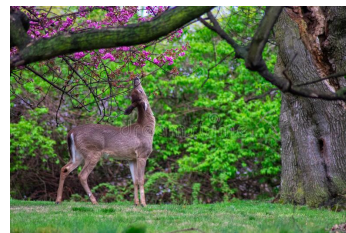


**R. macabeanum**



**R. rothschildii**

Add to that, the rhodies and other flora and fauna around the house and the grounds itself.....



**The other flora and fauna**

Well...I've no words to describe them except to note that John Poole's plaid iris looked especially stunning next to all the rhodies.



**John Poole's plaid iris**

After devouring the usual super good goodies from all of us (including my potato chips and Anne Gross's fantastic cake, which she only brings to our Christmas potluck but this being an especially special potluck, she brought one today) we settled ourselves into lawn chairs and, burping happily and loudly, the auction began. President-For-Life, Wally Reed, was the auctioneer and traded off those duties from time to time with "Red" Cavendar.



**"Red" Cavendar auctioneering while Wally Reed takes a cat nap waiting for his turn.**

I found out the reason they alternated is because they spotted plants they wanted to buy but couldn't if they were auctioning. And neither could get their wives, Kathy and Karen, to bid for them because both ladies said "Enough already".



**I caught Kathy Reed holding her paddle up for bidding. She said she didn't really want the plant, she was just bidding the price up - Hmm.... Yeah, right...**

As usual, Anne brought the most plants to bid on, a stunning bunch of rhodies and other plants, all hail, hardy and healthy.



And as usual, Steve Krasik played "Vanna White", holding up the plants for display, pointing out their best assets with one hand. This is a gift he excels at and which, if his lawyering ever goes South, will enable him to get a job at an auction house, like Sotheby's in New York. Of course, that wouldn't be quite the same as pointing at plants, but there's really not a lot of difference, is there?



**Steve Krasik readying his plant for display**

Wally started out as auctioneer and decided the lovely little Japanese maples should go first, saving the best stuff for last when Red would be the auctioneer and he could bid his heart out. Ali Sarlak, who needed more Japanese maples, was the high bidder out bidding both the Landers and Lintaults. It was quite a battle...Karen and Kathy

going at it while both Rogers gestured "NO". Money for our Treasury being most important, Wally ignored the men and watched just the bidding paddles from the women until Ali popped up with a bid neither gal wanted to exceed.

Someone other than Anne, brought an artichoke like no one had seen before. It was HUGE, with at least 10 "chokes" on it - a really spectacular plant! A real battle ensued with the main contenders being Keith White, Dick Lundin and Loydee Stonebrink. Keith argued that he no longer had room for rhodies, while Dick said he needed something large in his new garden, and Loydee wanted to see if artichokes would grow in Minnesota's winter. (Loydee and Glen have 2 acres of land to cover in Minnesota and have decided to try making an exotic garden of plants that only grow in the snow.) Loydee was determined to win the artichoke no matter what the cost and both men soon discovered there was no sense continuing a battle they wouldn't win (which is usually the case when a woman makes up her mind!).



**I hope the Stonebrinks have a tall vehicle for driving this to Minnesota cause I don't think it will fit on an airplane.**

Anyway, back to the auction. Among the rhodies up for bid were several R. Loderi hybrids, a R. macrophyllum, a R. Airy Fairy and a R. Christmas Cheer still in bloom, and several azaleas including Jack A Sand. The azaleas were unusual plants and unusually beautiful, with all being in bloom except Jack A Sand. A real bidding war ensued. Ali was restrained from bidding by Gloria, who checked their bank account and reminded him they were nearly broke. The main contenders were Dave Eckerdt, J.R. Kruger, Susan Doellinger, Brada Bailey and, of course, Karen Landers. But then, Carol Howard and Gary Schultz jumped in. The others stopped bidding as they, like the rest of us, were fascinated by the feathers and skin flying off the two of them as they battled for the only R. "Skull and Bones" in the lot. And THEN, at the last moment before the gavel hit the azaleas, in popped Elizabeth and Don Sundeen with a final high bid no one wanted to top. And with a final whisk of the gavel, all the plants had good homes.

Our Treasurer Dana Malby, who was happily licking his chops at all the cash and checks going into the treasury, made sure each of us paid up.

With a final snatching of delicious desserts, we departed happy and broke into the warm night air, filled with the fragrance of flowers from the Landers wonderful garden, chanting: Happy Faux Potluck and Plant Sale to all, and to all, a Good Night!

### Editor's Note:

The above article was submitted by our esteemed and humorous secretary, Mary Crofts. Of course you don't remember the May Potluck because it didn't take place. And we didn't have a virtual potluck, so we did the next best thing: WE MADE IT UP!!! We will see how true to life this plays out when we finally have the opportunity to meet at the Landers for good food, good drink, good fellowship and lots of fun!!

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**Hydrangea aspera**, native to the Himalayas, across southern China to Taiwan. Blooming now in Keith White's yard.

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## Celebration Of Abby Krueger June 14, 2020

Abby Krueger, wife of J.R. Krueger and wonderful member of our Willamette Chapter ARS passed away on June, 8, 2020.

On the beautifully sunny afternoon of Sunday, June 14th, a Celebration of Abby Krueger's life was held at the Union Hill Cemetery. The Cemetery is southeast of her home on Victor Point Rd near Silverton. It looks out south to Mary's Peak and Eugene, to the west to Salem and the Coast Range, and to the east toward Silver Creek Falls Park. The day and the view could not have been more beautiful or happier.

A Chaplin led the Celebration, and Abby and JR's 5 children participated. Many relatives and friends spoke beautiful thoughts in remembrance of Abby. The Lundins, Reeds and Anne Gross were able to attend and add to the Celebration. Abby is fondly remembered by all her Willamette Chapter ARS friends and we very much look forward to JR's company in the future.

From all her Willamette Chapter ARS friends, Thanks to Abby for all the fun she provided.

Wally Reed

# WCARS Virtual Plant Auction June 2020

With the State of Oregon locking down in March 2020 to slow the COVID-19 spread, our Willamette Chapter ARS had to cancel the planned April and May Chapter Meetings including our traditional Potluck and Plant Auction. Karen Landers, retired Director of Marion County's Health Department concurred in that decision. By late March a number of folks had planned to acquire new rhodys and other plants at the auction, and Anne Gross had collected a large number of plants to put into the auction. These folks, inspired by Karen Landers and Mary Ellen Ramseyer urged that the Chapter hold a virtual auction of Anne's plants.

In early April, Mary Ellen, Keith White, Wally Reed, and others conspired together and finally devised a plan for conducting our Virtual Auction. Anne had a list of what would be auctioned. Keith photographed and labeled each of the plants in their pots as they would have been shown in May. Wally put the plant images up on Dropbox and Google, with much appreciated help from John Poole. Keith worked out how to bid via email so all participants would be current with the latest bids. Those who wanted to bid revealed themselves and instructions were provided. Folks from Eugene and Corvallis became involved as well.

Keith started the e-mail process and folks bid against each other through June 10th. As usual, not much happened until the last day. Then the bidding became fast and furious, with much of the action during the last hour before midnight. When the dust settled and the results were finalized, our chapter netted \$870. Roger and Karen Landers, John Poole, Bob Whitman and Dana Malby got most of what they wanted. Good fun was had by all and we now know how to do something like it again if we wish. Thanks to one and all who helped with the success, and especially to those who helped fatten the WCARS Treasury.

Wally Reed & Keith White



**R. prunifolium** (southeastern US azalea) currently blooming in Keith White's yard.

# To Be Or Not To Be That Is the Question

Once again we address if there will actually be a 2020 WCARS potluck. Early in July I posed the question once again to Karen Landers, who not only will host the potluck, but is our expert regarding the safety of gathering during this Covid pandemic. The following is her reply:

"I had hoped for a decline in incidence of Covid 19 cases by this time, but it appears that cases are continuing to rise as businesses reopen and people, in general, have reduced the protective measures needed to control spread. We are seeing numbers of cases now that are as high or higher than at the beginning of the pandemic. Disappointing! Although CDC has made some specific recommendations on group activities, gathering is still being discouraged due to the increased numbers of infections. Taking into account that many in the WCARS group have risk factors that could result in severe illness, it is not safe to do a pot luck at this time. Roger and I are so very sorry that we are not able to host WCARS in our garden due to the pandemic this year, but we are looking forward to having everyone out here as soon as it is safe. (We promise!!) Everybody stay healthy. Karen"

We will continue to ask each month as weather permits gathering outdoors but the reality is that it may not happen until 2021 (and, as much as I would love to see you all in person, I would much rather wait until the Landers garden is in bloom!)

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## Hi And Hello

Since the topic of this newsletter is to say hello and keep in touch, I found this rhododendron called "Hello Dolly". It comes in yellow or pink.



# Kathy Reed

After over 59 years of our laughing and playing together, Kathy passed away in her sleep Thursday, July 9, 2020. She began her bouts with cancer in the spring of 2013 and beat 2 rounds of breast and 1 of lung cancer. The esophageal cancer began in spring 2015 and finally became terminal in early 2019. Throughout she had wonderful health care teams, and our Willamette Valley Hospice was wonderful for her last 2 weeks.

She had 4 "Energizer Bunny" days before Thursday enjoying friends and a bit of life. Sort of by chance, all our family were here on Thursday and at her passing. Thank you all for your wonderful friendship throughout our time with Kathy.

Kathy loved the mountains and the beach, but the beach was the most fun. We are likely to mix her ashes with the agates she loved to collect. We will hold a celebration of her life later which may need to be virtual. If you wish to honor her memory, please consider your local League of Women Voters ([lwv.org/home/donate](http://lwv.org/home/donate)) and please cook a lovely dinner for someone.

Our love to you all, Wally Reed and Family.

940 Leffelle St. SE, Salem, OR 97302 (503-588-3666)

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I met Kathy approximately 4 years ago and only saw her monthly at WCARS meetings, but she made an impression on me. I was amazed at her energy, her friendliness, her ability to easily converse with someone she didn't know, and her willingness to share information. You may have noted from prior newsletter postings that I was impressed by her cooking and gardening as well. But most of all, I was humbled by her thinking and approach to her diagnosis and death.

This wording comes from the esteemed author Maya Angelou, but when I read it, I immediately thought of Kathy and how she would envision herself:

**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.**

Kathy Reed - you certainly embraced these qualities and entered the Gates of Heaven with dignity, grace and style. Your light continues to burn brightly!

Mary Ellen Ramseyer

# WCARS Looking Forward To The Fall

The First United Methodist Church (FUMC) in Salem, with our traditional meeting venue, the Carrier Room, is observing all Oregon and local restrictions on when and who can use such a facility during the current period of virus unknowns. They are being very thoughtful about how to provide their facility for their congregation and others. We will let you know as soon as we know whether our meetings will be possible.

If we are again able to use the Carrier Room, will you please let me know if you would attend our meetings if we were to hold a correct physical distancing event. Whoever brings goodies could put individual portions separately wrapped. There is likely enough room for us to spread out to safe distances. Especially if we can wear masks most of the time.

**Please let me know at [wallacereed@comcast.net](mailto:wallacereed@comcast.net) if you would likely attend.**

If we can't meet in person, we can still have some fun, as demonstrated by our May-June Virtual Truss Show and Virtual Plant Auction. Some of the things we might do through our wonderful Newsletter and WCARS Web Page at [arswillamette.com](http://arswillamette.com) could be:

VIRTUAL SHOWS AND TELLS---- With images sent in by members

Summer rhody, azalea and companion plants in my garden or my town

Fall rhody, azalea and companion plants in my garden or my town

My favorite rhody or azalea of all time in my garden

A description with lots more pictures of the various gardens and field trips that we would have seen during the 20/20 ARS Convention

Descriptions of the various public rhody gardens in Oregon

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## WCARS New Program Bonanza

We have gotten our shipment of ARS DVD programs from Long Island, NY. Marvin Fisher in Smithtown, NY is the curator of this collection of professionally done programs. Mr. Wing Fong, now deceased, did the excellent production. All of the programs have excellent background music. The Frank Fujioka program has English subtitles. "Garden Walks 2006 " has no narration but has subtitles. I am thinking over how to get these to you in this

Covid-19 era. I may be able to just make you a copy of any of these for your family/friends social distancing enjoyment.

Keith White

**Garden Walks 2006** - Gardens visited during the joint convention of the ARS and ASA in 2006 in Rockville MD area.

Several gardens visited during the Joint Convention of the American Rhododendron Society and the Azalea Society of America in Rockville, Maryland, May 2006. Includes Marshy Point Nursery, U.S. National Arboretum, Hudgen's garden 'Fern Dell', Ed and Mary Reiley's garden, Mike and Deb White, Norman and Jean Beaudry's garden and the McCrillis garden. Running time 37 minutes.

**Frank Fujioka Program** - Talk given in 2006 to the Societe Bretonne Du Rhododendron in France Program presented to the Societe Bretonne Du Rhododendron in France. The program is about Frank's garden, hybrids, his hybridizing program and more. Modified with English translation as needed. Running time 37 minutes.

**Arunachal Pradesh, India** - Narration by Ron Rabideau

Program based on Ron Rabideau's experiences when he joined an outstanding international group of plant explorers to Arunachal Pradesh in search of rhododendron species. The program consists of photos and videos from members of the expedition and also personal observations of the people and the culture there. Narration by Ron Rabideau. Running time 52 minutes.

**The Zurich Garden** - Narration by garden creator, Dr. William Zurich

This DVD program was created by ARSPL with Dr. William M. Zurich, Jr., who also did the narration. Bill shared his personal thoughts and design approach in the development of his rhododendron garden. Kenneth Cox., after viewing the Zurich garden, rated this as one of the finest private gardens in the East Coast. DVD record of a superb mature garden, Running time is 30 minutes.

**Rhododendrons at the Golden Gate** - 2007 Annual Convention with narration

Here are rhododendrons growing amidst palms with cycads, orchids, oranges! Rhododendrons grow amongst contemporary art, metal sculptures and pagodas. This DVD features 1) San Francisco's famed Golden Gate Park with its Conservatory of Flowers, Japanese Tea Garden, and the S. F. Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum. 2) Filofax House and Garden, 3) Bee and Paul Brown's garden, 4) The Tim Durant garden, 5) Dr. Burt and Belinda Brent's Scottish country garden. 6) Tom Jackson and Kathy Grant garden, 7) The Webber-Kessler garden,

8) Sonoma Horticultural Nursery, 9) The Château St. Jean Vineyard. With narration. Running time 39 minutes.

### Rhododendrons in the Wild West - 2007 Annual Convention with narration

All narration recorded live on location, resulting in a spontaneous convention tour DVD. Gilcrease Museum Gardens and Rock Garden. Len Miller narrates at Lendonwood Garden, Elk Ridge, and the Tulsa Garden Center. Barry Fugatt, Director of Horticulture, guided the tour at Linnaeus Teaching Center. Breniss O'Neal talks about her "Forest Hollow Estate". Jim Baily narrates as the tour visited his garden. The Philbrook Museum of Art with its 16th century Italian Renaissance gardens. Two adjacent gardens of Jim and Madeline Osborne and Ronald and Annette Williams at the water's edge of Grand Lake. Running time 58 minutes

### Nepal: Our Ultimate Rhodo Flowering Experience!

- Narration by Ian Chalk, Australia  
This DVD was developed via the internet with Ian Chalk from down under. Ian is a member of the Emu Valley Rhododendron Society and the Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden, Burnie, Tasmania. Australia. Ian and his wife Jenny share their experiences while trekking through the world's largest rhododendron forest in Nepal. Ian narrates with insight and personal impressions. Summing this up is WOW! Running time 21 minutes.

### Oban Scotland 1996 ARS Convention Revisited - Narration by Win Howe

Win and Anne Howe, of the Valley Forge Chapter, take us back to an extraordinary convention which attracted hundreds of attendees from all over the world. One of the best photo-documented garden tours: Stonefield Castle, Achamore House, Ardkinglas Woodland Garden, Mount Stuart House, Stirling Castle. After the convention Win takes us on a tour of Glendoick Gardens and Nursery, home of Peter and Kenneth Cox. All this in one DVD. Running time 36 minutes.

# The Pesty Spotted Lanternfly

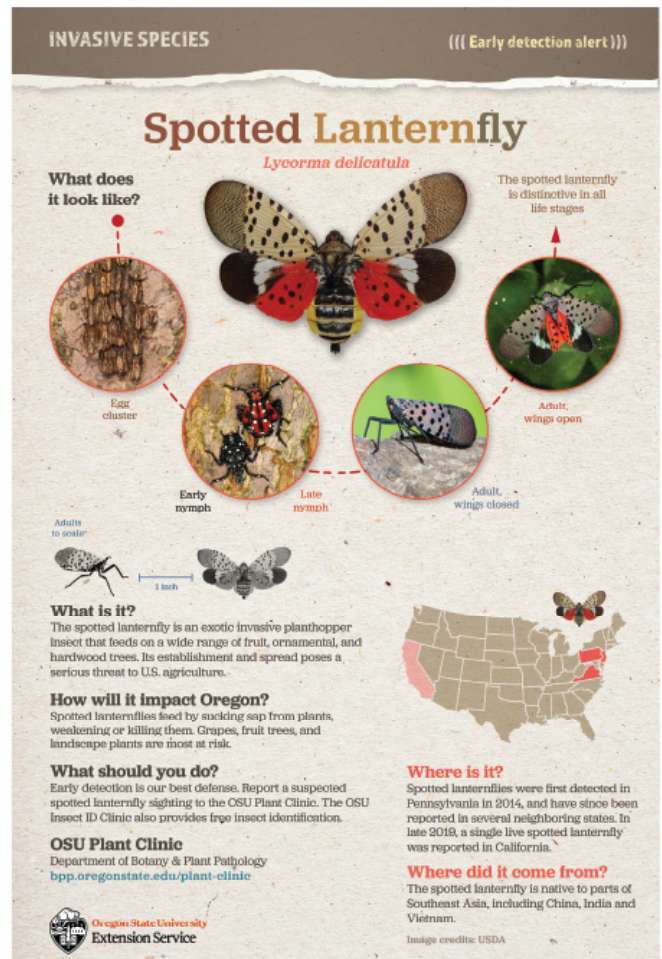
A BIG THANKS to Dick Lundin who submitted this article for the newsletter. It comes from the June 2020 edition of Digger, which is a monthly magazine published by the Oregon Association of Nurseries.

## Announcements NEW EARLY DETECTION POSTER FOR SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

Oregon State University (OSU) Plant Clinic has published an informative poster to help growers identify the invasive spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*). It shows images of the pests throughout their lifecycle.

Dead spotted lanternflies from Pennsylvania were found on cargo in California last year, but there is no official report of a living West Coast living infestation yet. The insects are drawn to grapevines, but they are also damaging to fruit trees and other landscape plants. The clinic's website also offers a resource page that provides growers with early detection tools and contact information for the OSU Insect ID Clinic.

Download a printable file of the poster at: [tinyurl.com/yb5kkn5c](https://tinyurl.com/yb5kkn5c).



# 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. Wally Reed - President

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## 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

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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>
Suislaw Chapter	No current website
Tualatin Valley	<a href="http://tualatinvalleyars.org">tualatinvalleyars.org</a>

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

Under "chapters" under web sites

**ARS BULLETINS are available online at:**

<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/JARS/>

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## 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 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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