

Southwestern Oregon Chapter

AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

WWW.SWOREGON-ARS.ORG/

NOVEMBER 2012



Meeting Time/Place

Nov. 15 —7:00 pm
N. Bend Housing Authority
1700 Monroe Street
North Bend

Pre Meeting Dinner—

5:00 pm

Tai's Dynasty
1388 Virginia Ave
North Bend

RSVP to Marjene MacIntyre
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541-347-7269

Meeting Refreshments:

Candy & Pete Baumer

October Board Meeting

No Board meeting this month

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November Program

Ed Kreutzer from Coos Grange Supply will talk about changes in pesticides, fungicides and what's new in fertilizers.

President's Message

Ray Lee

Deciduous Azaleas –

What a delightful program by Mike Stewart. Who knew there were seventeen other deciduous azaleas besides our native Occidentale here along the Oregon coast? Mike had a great program showing growing conditions, flower color and what the leaves looked like on all of the other azaleas that grow on the east coast. He also brought nine different azalea plants that they grow in their nursery to use for our plant auction. After the great program many people had already decided which of the azaleas they wanted in their garden. The bidding was spirited and I didn't get any of the plants I bid on. The minimum bid at the auction was \$10 with the high bid going for the Lollipop by Michael Drake for \$26. This is a nice fund raiser for the Chapter plus it gets some plants in member's gardens that we wouldn't see any other way. Thank you, Mike. We appreciate your support of the Southwestern Oregon Chapter.

Cutting Party – I've been doing cuttings from Ann Drake's cutting party for a few years now. In 2009 a cutting of Odorum actually survived and is in my garden now. It has not bloomed yet but is supposed to be a lavender color. All of my other cuttings from 2009, 2010 and 2011 have died. The 2012 cutting party on September 15th had me hopeful that I could watch Ron Prchal to see what he was doing to get an 80% survival rate on his cuttings from last year. I took cuttings from Ann's plants that I had tried the last two years. I wanted only late bloomers so was selective. Ron and Cheryl didn't show up so I followed the same cuttings protocol we've been taught by Bob McIntyre for the last sev-

eral years – take this year's limber growth, score both sides of the stem, dip in Clorox solution, dip stem in rooting hormone powder, poke hole in planting medium in pot, insert cutting, press down medium with fingers and hope things work out right. I've kept the cuttings inside a mini greenhouse occasionally spraying the leaves to keep moist and they are still a nice bright green color. I'm quite sure that in previous years the cuttings would be dead by now. There was one cutting that had the leaves fall off a few weeks after the cutting party so the rest of them still being green after a month and a half give me great hope for their survival. So now, what is the reason for the survival this year versus the previous years? I followed all of the same rules and procedures as I have the last few years. I wish I knew!

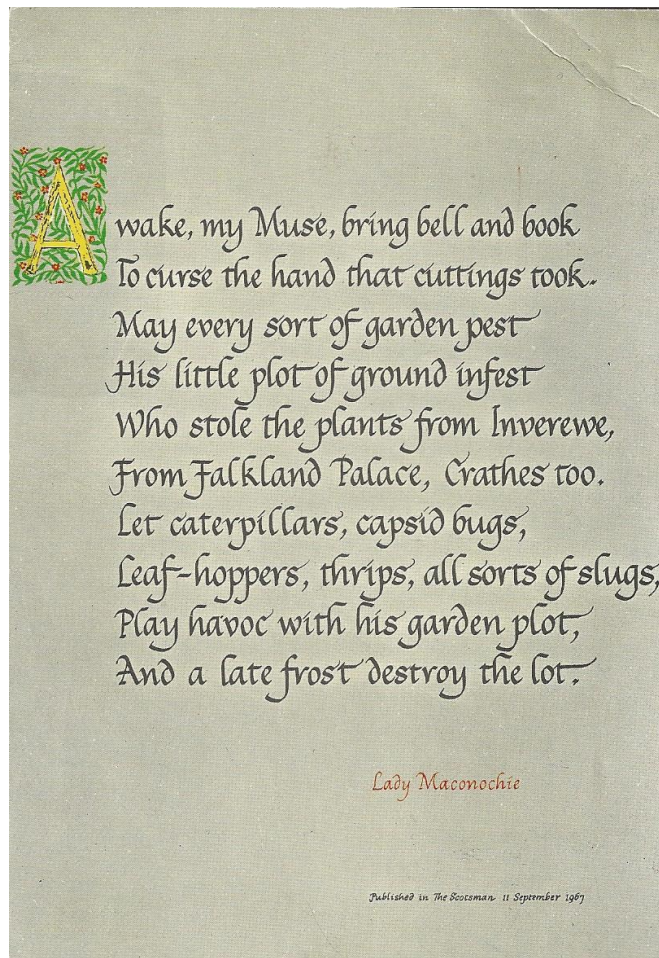
Bandon Park project – The plan is to dig out grass, dig in bark to aerate the soil then plant about twenty rhodies. We then will spread bark to make things look nice and call it quits on this year's project. I believe we will need more than one work party to make this all happen. Just digging up the plants that have been donated will take more than one day so we'll play this one work party day at a time to see what needs to be done next. Our first work party is scheduled for November 17th at 9:00 AM at 11th Street Park. There were a few people who signed up to help at the last Chapter meeting. We would appreciate them and any other volunteers to show up at the park on the 17th. Pouring rain cancels the work party. We have no deadline to complete the project so why work in the rain when I won't even fish in the rain?

Next meeting – November 15th is our next meeting. I hope to see you there to talk more about our Bandon Park project and the rhododendron, my favorite flower.



Ann and Tom picked this up when they visited Inverewe gardens in Scotland

: "The Gardener's Curse" Lady Maconochie (of Inverewe) denounces all who appropriate plants from three famous Scottish gardens: Inverewe, Falkland and Crathes. All are in the care of the National Trust for Scotland.



Ann's Corner

Ann Drake

Some websites contain a newsletter or other information regarding care of plants. The newsletter from Singing Tree Gardens in Northern California is a favorite. You can sign up to receive this publication at www.singtree.com. The October issue addresses the subject of pruning conifers. There are 6 pages of helps. We did have an expert on conifers some time ago at a meeting but I can't remember if he had any advice on this subject. Don Wallace has visited our meetings as well as Siuslaw chapter's several times. Some of the reasons to prune conifers are: pruning for form, pruning for size control, pruning for health and pruning for rehabilitation. Don is also having a sale on dwarf conifers online in November. If you ever have a chance to visit the nursery be sure and do it. Always new special rhododendrons and companion plants are available in a beautiful setting.



Across the Kitchen Table

Bob MacIntyre

We had a good and very informative meeting to start our year and we can expect more information in our November meeting. Ed Kreutzer from Coos Grange Supply will talk to us about changes in pesticides, fungicides and what's new in fertilizers. Be sure to ask all those questions you have about what to use and when. Mr. Kreutzer has spoken to us before and clarified any gardening questions we have had.

It's finally raining and is the best time of year to transplant or replant those rhodies that have outgrown their location – be it in the ground or in a container. Remember to plant in an area with good drainage. A small amount of kelp or seaweed fertilizer will help new roots get a faster foot hold.

Established plants whose foliage is not quite up to par may be given a little boost with a dose of Epsom salts or dolomite lime.

Cleaning up the debris of dead leaves and branches from under the plants is a good way to prevent hiding places for insects, snails and slugs. This is decrease early damage next spring when new growth begins.



These cuttings from September 15th are still a nice glossy green. Only one had its leaves fall off a few weeks ago. I am hopeful these will survive! If not, I can always buy nice big plants at the Chapter plant sale next April.
Ray Lee



Plants for Auction

Pete Baumer

1. Noyo Snow - 3' - 15 deg. - mid-season bloom - dense growing habit

Yak x arboreum pink w/wavy edges, inside pale purplish-pink at the edge. Fading to yellowish white at center w/ a light yellow green blotch.

This is the first time that we have had this plant at one of our sales.

2. Command Performance - a cross by Jim Barlup 4' - mid-season bloom

Hachman's CharmantxSnow Candle - frilled pink flower with a dark flare..Another first time plant at our sale. With Hachmans's Charmant as a parent plant this should be a terrific plant.

3. Campylogynum - 'Jade' - 2'-3' small compact growing habit

small tubular purple flowers, with waxy bloom. Likes part shade and sun.Great as a potted plant and or in a small garden.

Silent auction 3 books from Diane Mathis Library:

1. Rhododendrons in America by Ted Van Veen - autographed by Ted Van Veen

The feature of this book is the foot notes taken by the Mathis' on the blooming time for the rhody varieties locally. Very special book.

2. Rhododendrons of China - this book was the work of the Species foundation and the ARS- its purpose was to translate from Chinese to English a major work on Chinese Rhododendrons which included 283 illustrated species descriptions and a detailed key to the species.

Future Events

2012

December Meeting—Holiday pot luck and gift exchange

2013

April 26, 27, 28—Southwestern Oregon Chapter Annual Show

May 1—5—ARS Annual Convention, Seattle, WA

Sept. 27-29—ARS Western Regional Conference, Newport OR

