

Southwestern Oregon Chapter

AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

WWW.SWOREGON-ARS.ORG/

JANUARY 2013



January Program

Harold Greer—Diversity in Rhododendrons

Meeting Time/Place

Jan. 17 —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
marjenem@frontier.com
541-347-7269

Meeting Refreshments:

Karen Cyris

January Board Meeting

No Board meeting this month

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President's Message

Ray Lee

Christmas Potluck and Gift Exchange — I went to the Christmas Party at Bob and Marjene's house unsure whether to just have a regular Christmas gift exchange or to go with the exchange where people can steal gifts from other people who have already opened their gifts. I mentioned to a few people that I was leaning towards just drawing numbers and letting people pick a prize from under the tree as it didn't seem like many people stole gifts last year at the party. Wow! Several people said "Let's do the steal"! OK. What a difference a year makes. There were still people who wished someone would steal what they had opened from the gifts available and found no takers. It seemed the most popular items were bird houses. There were at least two bird houses and they changed hands at least three time before all of the gift exchange was over. I know there were other items that were stolen more than once. I saw a lot of smiles and laughing. We had good food and good fun at the party. Thank you, Bob and Marjene. We appreciate you opening your house to the rhodie lovers of the Southwestern Oregon Chapter of ARS.

Bandon Park project — Our next work party is January 12th. People helping with the project will meet at Liz and Tom's old house, 57362 Randolph Road at 9:00 AM. The six rhodies Liz has donated are already dug. We will load them onto trucks and proceed to Bob and Marjene MacIntyre's house. There are six plants donated by Mike Stewart

plus three plants in Bob's yard we dug a few weeks ago to load and take to Bandon City Park on 11th Street. If they don't all fit on the trucks available we'll have to make two trips. The three plants donated from Jack Hackett's yard are already dug. He will deliver them to the Park along with his tractor with its bucket to help with spreading ten yards of bark around the seventeen rhodies we will plant on Saturday. Anyone is welcome to help or just watch us plant rhodies to make a spot of color for people enjoying 11th Street Park in the spring.

Cutting Party results — I have ten cuttings that are still green from the original twelve I took at Ann Drake's cutting party on September 15, 2012. I haven't pulled on any of them or put any water on the rooting medium in the small pots where they've been planted since the party. I have sprayed the leaves and inside of the mini greenhouse regularly to keep high humidity. I think the leaves still being green is a good sign and it's time for water on the possible roots of the cuttings.

Flowering rhodie — There is a pink rhodie blooming at the entrance of Mingus Park. I only saw it a few days ago but it's been blooming for a few weeks based on the spent flowers on the ground under the plant. It's about 7' tall and in with the other mature rhodies on the west side of the road from the parking lot. I know it's late for cuttings but I just had to take three as I like VE and VL rhodies in the garden. Maybe some will survive and I'll have a December bloomer in the yard.

Next meeting — January 17th is our next meeting. I hope to see you there to talk more about the rhododendron, my favorite flower.



Ann's Corner

Ann Drake

So gray, wet and dismal outside these days. Looked for something bright and blooming and only found a few yellow primroses that came from Liz and my one yellowish conifer *Chamaecyparis obtusa* 'Nana Lutea'. The miracle about my Nana Lutea is I have two cuttings that survived and right now are planted in troughs. Can't find a bloom on the witchhazel. Because of the loss of a limb on the large magnolia it is more visible now and will get more sun hopefully. Witchhazel usually blooms in December and January and with a sunny day is very fragrant.

Singing Tree Gardens latest newsletter features golden and yellow conifers right now with some online specials. There is a large collection of conifers that are a golden or yellow shade. The website is www.singtree.com. Now I will go outside for a bit and say soft kind words to all my survivors.

Across the Kitchen Table

Bob MacIntyre

Welcome back to our rhody year. We had a great holiday potluck and gift exchange. It was great to see some of our members who are unable to attend regular meetings. To those who were unable to join us, we hope to see you next year.

We are starting off the new year with a new rhody program from Harold Greer. Harold is very well known in the rhody world. Harold and his wife Nancy are the owners of Greer Rhododendrons in Eugene. He is a propagator, hybridizer, teacher of rhody culture, Past President of the ARS, Gold Medal Recipient . . . And that is just the beginning. His new program is "*Diversity in Rhododendrons*" and reports are that it's a great program.

We have a new project starting this month and it involves planting rhody's in Bandon City Park. We will be working closely with the Bandon Parks and Recreation Department. This is the first of several projects the City of Bandon would like us to partner with them in Bandon. Read more about this project and work day in Ray's President's message.

There is not a lot to do in the garden at this time except for winter clean-up and debris removal. Removing the debris will remove hiding places for slugs and snails and prevent them from laying eggs in hiding places. Reminder—our first fertilizing day is the middle of February.

How are your cuttings doing? Mine have done well with about 85-90% of them rooted. Keep the humidity up but start to harden them off and get ready to transplant soon. If you haven't checked for root growth, do so now. Gently tug on the cutting. If it shows resistance to move, it should be rooted.

See you at the meeting.



BOD Meeting Minutes

Pete Baumer

December 8, 2012 Rhody Board Meeting

In attendance Ray Lee, Robin Hansen, Dan Nickel, Bob MacIntyre, Pete Baumer

Minutes from 10-13-12 were read and approved.

Treasurer's report – current balance \$5,176.42 with an outstanding check from the April show.

There was discussion about the ARS Budget which included ideas about how to reduce the cost of the journal and how to get to a balanced budget. Ideas included electronic journal the SWO board expressed to Bob that there should not be a \$5 reduction in membership dues for those choosing to receive the journal electronically. Bob said that currently with donations and contributions the ARS budget deficit has been reduced significantly.

There was discussion about members who were having a difficult time with membership dues. Motion to pay for their chapter membership \$10 was passed.

Work party was scheduled for Sat. Dec. 15 this will be a digging day. Update – Jack, Pete, Ray, Liz and Tom Hultin, and Michael Drake dug plants. Dan volunteered to buy the stake and tape to support the plants. Bob said he would get fertilizer and phosphate. Planting date was set for Jan. 12th and 9am. Jack Hackett said he would have his tractor at the park to move plants and bark

Pictures Shared by Ray



I drive by Mingus Park every day when I go see Jan at Baycrest Village. How did I miss this for the last few weeks? Lots of flowers and a nice pink for this time of year.



Plants for Auction

Pete Baumer

1. Jingle Bells - Lem's Goal x Fabia 3' 5 deg. a changing color truss. Starts out scarlet with many color changes before turning to yellow. A very nice hardy grower in our area.
2. Mango Tango - (Nancy Evans x (Mrs. Lamont Copeland x Tweedy Bird) 4'0 deg. Lg. Golden flowers flushed with peach on the bud and on the outer lobes.
3. N.E. x 1000 butterflies (Morris Cove) ruffled truss of salmon fading to cream and orange.
4. Super Flimmer - 3' -15 deg. Lilac - pink flowers with variegated leaves



The Bandon Parks crew put in topsoil to raise the level where we wanted to plant rhodies then planted grass. I went down a few months ago and used Roundup to kill grass on two 10' diameter circles. We will plant 3 rhodies in each circle.



The Bandon City Parks crew dug out the grass from a 6' x 100' strip so we can plant rhodies alongside the road in the park. Thank you, guys. I didn't want us to have to do this with shovels! This should be plenty of room for 11 large rhodies.

Future Events

- 2013
- January 12—Bandon Park Planting Project
 - February 21—Regular monthly meeting
 - 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
 - Oct. 4-6—ARS Eastern Regional Conference, Dartmouth NS Canada