



Southwestern Oregon Chapter

AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

WWW.SWOREGON-ARS.ORG/

Happy Thanksgiving

NOVEMBER 2010

Meeting Time/Place

November 18 — 7:00 pm
N. Bend Housing Authority
1700 Monroe Street
North Bend

Pre Meeting Dinner

5:00 pm
Tai's Dynasty
1388 Virginia, North Bend

RSVP to Jan Lee—
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541-267-4176

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November Program

Our speaker will be Bill Johnson from Florence, OR, a member of the Siuslaw Chapter. Bill is an excellent photographer and has taken pictures of many member's gardens as well as public gardens. He is the resident photographer for the Siuslaw Chapter. Bill will take us on a photo slide show of local gardens.

President's Message

Ray Lee

Cutting Party results – The cutting party was September 18th so that means my cuttings have been in their pots for about 90 days. I've resisted looking real close at the cuttings as looking at them doesn't influence whether they survive or not. Upon checking today I find that all of the Noyo Dream & Twilight Pink cuttings are curled up & brown. One of the Trude Webster & two of the Grand Slam cuttings are still green & I feel some resistance when I lift gently on the cuttings. A few more weeks & I should know for sure.

Grow from seeds – Jan and I took a seminar on growing Rhodies from

seed at the Western Regional Conference on October 9th in Florence. Gordon Wylie conducted the seminar, provided the seeds, planting medium & clear plastic pots in which to plant the seeds. Jan chose two hybrid crosses that would bloom mid while I chose two that were crossed with Whitney's Late Orange to get later blooms. For the first two weeks nothing but brown peat moss with seeds lying on top. Now, a little over three weeks after planting the seeds, each of the pots has at least 50 seedlings about 1/2" tall. Amazing to me, Gordon showed slides of plants at six months old at 4" tall grown from seeds. My cutting of Odorum

that survived from the September 2009 cutting party is only 4" tall after a year! Gordon did admit to misting the plants weekly with a very weak solution of Miracid & water after they had their first two permanent leaves. If growing from seed works out for us the next challenge will be getting seeds that we actually want to grow into plants for our yard.

Leaf woes – A few of our Rhodies have leaves with blotches & it looks like they will die & fall off. This probably is normal on two & three year old leaves but our Flaming Star has the blotches on some of this year's leaves. Last year I took a few leaves in to

President's Message (cont'd)

Ray Lee

Grange Co-op & they suggested Kop-R-Spray to control powdery mildew. When I noticed the blotches on several plants a few weeks ago I sprayed top & bottom of the leaves with Kop-R-Spray but it may already be too late by the time you see the blotches. Maybe it isn't even powdery mildew. Bob MacIntyre mentioned recently that Pat Osborne from Thompson's Nursery will do a program at the January meeting on "What's ailing the leaves on your Rhododendron". I think I better pay attention as I need all the help I can get.



Flaming Star—Leaf Woes
Photo by Ray Lee

Hinsdale Work Party – Wednesday, November 17, 2010 from 10:00 A.M. until done. Gordon Wylie says hot soup & snacks will be provided. Bring your gloves, rain gear & a shovel & let's have some fun!

See you there, Ray.

Ann's Corner

Ann Drake

The fall edition of the Journal has arrived and after reading the featured articles, the smaller bits and pieces included in the journal caused me to read the entire issue.

There is a great deal of information in the ARS Journal. For instance: years ago it was possible to rent a slide program as well as purchase books. Now it is possible to purchase DVDs as well as books. One that sounds interesting is "Passion for Rhododendrons" by Mendocino Coast Films. That would make a good program. "In Praise of Dahlias" is another. An article in the journal "Why a Program Library" lists a number of programs available with more to come. There is a long list of books for sale. And don't forget the seed exchange.

If you keep your journals for reference as my hus-

band and I have since 1962 and have loaned or lost one there is a list of back issues available for purchase. I am continually using these. It is easy to find an article from any issue by using one of the indexes listed for purchase for years from 1947 up to the present.

Every issue contains a list of newly registered plants. I now know that Don Wallace's new hybrid 'Candycorn' is a cross of (Nancy Evans x Orange Marmalade) X (Orange Marmalade x Lem's Cameo).

It is possible to become a member of the New Zealand Rhododendron group, the Australian Rhododendron Society and the Azalea Society of America and several other groups including several in our own district

of Oregon. One ad lists Dan's Dwarf Conifers: <http://DansDwarfConifers.Etsy.com>. I am going to research their list. Conifers are a good companion for rhododendrons.



Candycorn—photo by
Don Wallace

October Recap

Ann Drake

Representatives of the Fish & Wildlife service Madeleine Vanderhyden and Liz Kelly introduced us to an endangered species, *Lilium Occidentale*, in our midst. The 1973 endangered species act puts both the coastal lily and *darlingtonia* on the list. A familiar sight to most of us, this lily is in danger of extinction. The threat of development, tree and brush growth and man himself is gradually taking its toll. Deer love the flowers and contribute to plant loss. The plants are actually counted and kept track of. Seed is collected and planted. The fish and wildlife has located areas on the coast where the lily is losing ground. From Florence to Brookings the plants are being forced



out. Public lands such as Shoreacres state park, Sunset Bay, Floras Lake Cape Blanco are being replanted. In the Hauser bog area a fence has been installed working in partnership with the parks department. Fences have also been constructed at Cape Blanco. With educating the public the Fish and Wildlife service is hoping to stem the tide.

Two plants of Gene Cockerum's Pink Ribbons were auctioned and the proceeds will go

Other plants auctioned were Seven Devils Red r. *macrophyllum*, a plant collected locally, Goldilocks and a large blooming Yellow Hammer. Liz Hultin won the door prize Wanna Bee.

What's Coming To The Plant Auction

Pete Baumer

What's coming to the auction:

1. Horizon Fiesta - Heavily budded, very dark green leaves and great shaped bush. It feature pink picotee, with pale yellow-orange throat and finish with a red flare. It looks and sounds like a must have plant.
2. "W #1" is a (ring of fire x lem's cameo). It will have dusty pink flowers with yellow under tones. It will bloom this next year, the plant has 4 flower buds. It is a Thompson cross, yet to be named or maybe never to be named. Depending on how they like it.
3. Wow - It is heavily budded, nicely shaped bush that will be yellow and then intensifying to pink with age. It grows well in filtered sun, does not like the late hot after noon sun.

Across the Kitchen Table

Bob MacIntyre

Well, the cool of late autumn is setting in, and our plants are getting ready for a cool nap. As winter sets in. Watch and pay attention to your local weather reports. If any frosty conditions are predicted you can protect those border line tender plants by:

A—outing small plants in pots and storing in a safe but cool place such as cool house, lath house, garage, etc.

B—larger plants can be covered with protective shelter with tarps, sheets of plastic, old shower curtains or old bed sheets.

Any added protection will really help to save that special and treasured plant.

In addition to frost protection, the addition of a 1-2 inch layer of mulch spread around the line to cover active root system will give your plants added protection. I would not recommend applying any fertilizer until the middle of February so as not to stimulate new growth during any warmer and sunnier periods during the winter.

Limit pruning to removing dead and/or broken branches.

I would strongly recommend removing accumulated debris from under plants, such as old discarded leaves and weeds. Rake them up and discard. This will prevent overwintering places for slugs, snails and weevils.

This is also a good time to check plants labels. Are they still attached to the plant? If not, replace with new labels. Make sure if you use a label with wire connections, that the wire is still attached to the branch. Limbs grow quickly and a tight label can quickly damage a limb.

Hope to see you at our next meeting.

If you have any questions or new ideas or rhody tips, please pass them on or contact me at rmacintyre@yahoo.com.

Future Events

2010

November 11—Board Meeting, 9:00 am, Minute Café, Bandon

November 17—Hinsdale Work Day

December—Christmas pot luck and gift exchange

2011

May 11-14—ARS Annual Convention, Heathman Lodge, Vancouver, WA

2012

May 4-8—ARS Annual Convention, Asheville, NC

Sept. 21-23—Western Regional, Coast Bastion Inn, Nanaimo, BC