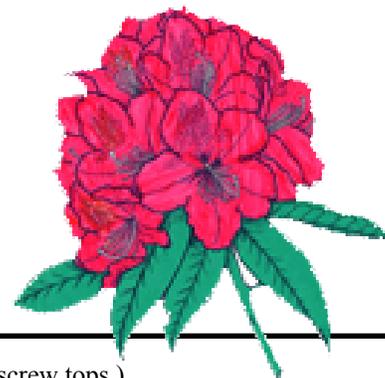


Noyo News

Noyo Chapter

American Rhododendron Society
November 20, 2013



Wednesday, Nov. 20, 7:00

Presbyterian Church

367 So. Sanderson Way, FB

Camellia Fever

"We in America did not get excited about camellias until the 1920s. After that time, camellia fever spread very fast, mainly because America men took the camellia as one of their favorite flowers. The cult spread across the South the way it had done on the West Coast."

William. L. Hunt, *Southern Gardens, Southern Gardening, 1982*

Dan Charvet was Noyo Chapter's 4th president back in the early 80s. Dan followed his father, Len Charvet, with his penchant for hybridizing; however, his focus has been on camellias which he started hybridizing back in about 1970.

Over two dozen of his hybrids are in the trade and some of his award winning hybrids include, John Druecker, Shelter Cove, Bolero, Kwan Yuen, Salute, and Braxton Bragg.

Dan's has resided here on the coast since about 1980 and along with his wife Patty, has owned and operated the Heartwood Nursery for many years.

We couldn't have a more knowledgeable speaker to expand our scope of possibilities for our gardens.



Heartwood Nursery has relocated to the Celeri & Son Nursery on Summers Lane.

Bea Aker Memorial

A celebration of the life of Bea Aker will be held on Sunday, November 17 at 1:00 p.m. at the Community Center in Gualala. An ice cream social is planned in her memory. Everyone who knew Bea will recall how she established her love of colorful, goofy, mismatched, and/or seasonal socks as her signature and trademark. Friends are urged to wear socks reminiscent of Bea's penchant for unusual foot wear.

Bea died on September 11, 2013.

If you are planning on attending please notify Dick Jones (964-4353, dic@mcn.org) as he will inform Eric Aker as to the likely number of Noyo Ch members who will be attending.

Condolences

Our compassion goes to Ken & Nodja Jones. Ken's son, Gary, passed away last month after a lengthy illness.

As a long time teacher here in Fort Bragg this writer had the opportunity to know Gary as a teenager. He was a sweet, gentle person involved with many of his peers. With this premature passing Gary's friends will feel their loss.

Wine, Wine & More Wine!

(Submitted by Nannette Giomi)

The holidays are a great time to collect the wine bottles we use in our area-wide advertising. Terry & his crew put out almost 200 rhododendron filled bottles the Wednesday before the Show to most motels, businesses and restaurants. This tradition has become a much liked means of advertising as we receive calls from establishments asking for them.

We need "high shouldered" bottles (not sloped, as our custom labels are large) with cork tops (no

screw tops.)

It is no longer necessary to remove the original labels as our customized show info label is applied over the vintners' one. The awaiting bottles are kept in the club's shed so give us a call and we'll see that they are stored.

You might also like to "adopt" a favorite establishment and keep one of these advertising bottles supplied with fresh rhodies in the weeks before our May 10/11 show to get greatest exposure. Dennis does this for David's Deli and it is a terrific way to expose everyone to the beauty of rhododendrons while keeping our group and Show in the public eye.

Everyone is encouraged to save the morning of Wednesday, May 7th, to bring trusses for the collected and labeled bottles, and to help with delivering them.

Show at the Gardens???

As detailed in the Nov. 7 issue of the ADVOCATE-NEWS there is an issue between the Mendocino Coast Recreation & Park District (MCRPD) and the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens (MCBG). It appears that the resolution of this conflict will have a direct effect on the Noyo Chapter's ability to have our Show at the Gardens.

The issue revolves around title to the Gardens and includes possible disagreement about non-profit organizations using the Gardens for fund raising events.

Many of us have a vested interests in the Noyo Chapter, the MCRPD, and the MCBG. It would behoove each of us to become informed and express any opinions to people in the leadership positions of these organizations.

This is not at the UN, back in Washington, or clear over in Sacramento. **It's a local issue** that could effect you very directly.

NOYO CHAPTER ARS		
Treasurer's Report		
10-31-2013		
	Budgeted	Actual to Date
Balance Checking: \$6,967.53		
Balance Vanguard: \$2,252.54	for	for
	2013-2014	2013-2014
INCOME		
Dues:		
ARS	\$2,029.00	\$1,315.00
Chapter	\$676.00	\$400.00
Plant Raffle	\$500.00	\$110.00
Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00
Show	\$9,600.00	\$310.00
Donations	\$50.00	\$220.00
Misc.	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$12,855.00	\$2,355.00
EXPENSES		
Species Foundation	\$100.00	\$100.00
MCBG	\$100.00	\$100.00
ARS Dues	\$2,029.00	\$1,315.00
District Director (&/or alternate)	\$300.00	\$0.00
Hospitality	\$150.00	\$0.00
Awards and Memorials	\$150.00	\$0.00
Newsletter	\$350.00	\$82.93
Administrative Exp.	\$150.00	\$0.00
P.O. Box	\$60.00	\$60.00
Programs	\$750.00	\$200.00
Rent	\$500.00	\$150.00
Show	\$8,111.00	\$248.86
Filing	\$20.00	\$0.00
Insurance	\$250.00	\$0.00
Web Page	\$135.00	\$0.00
Bank Charges	\$180.00	\$0.00
Raffle	\$0.00	\$0.00
Misc.	\$0.00	\$100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$13,335.00	\$2,356.79
TOTAL INCOME(-LOSS)	-\$480	-\$1.79

General Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 by Terry Giomi.

- June Walsh, Tom, & Lyla Reynolds were welcomed.
- A motion was made to accept the minutes of the last meeting as written. (Nanette/Tiger Lilly, m/s)
- Terry reported that all the major bills have been paid.
- A new wellness chairman is needed since Bea is no longer with us.
- Shirley thanked Judy Parker, Tiger Lilly, Joyce Gilbertson and herself for tonight's refreshments and passed around a sign-up sheet for the December Potluck.
- Terry reported that about 55% of renewals are in.
- The next Show meeting will be held Tuesday Nov. 5th, 11:00 at the MCBG meeting room.
- A memorial for Bea Acker will be held Sunday Nov. 17th, 1:00 at the Gualala Community Center. Call Dick if you plan on being there.
- Rosalie spoke to the members regarding the need for volunteers for The Garden Conservancy private garden tours to be held the same weekend as our Show. One garden will be that of Bob & Judy Mathey. For more information Mary Jausch, representative for the conservancy can be contacted at 973-570-0759.
- Joyce introduced tonight's speaker, Sherla Bertemann from Pacific Island Nursery in Hawaii.
- Dennis described the plants for the raffle and also sold the Vireyas that were for sale.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 (Sam/Sarah, m/s)

Respectfully submitted,
Rosalie Stanley, Secretary

Show Meeting Minutes, Nov. 5, 2013, 11 am

Members present: John Winding, Nannette & Terry Giomi, Sam Foresman, Jim Celeri, Dick Jones, MaryAnn Paine, Dennis McKiver, Susan Tubbesing

- MCBG and the Noyo Chapter will split the cost (\$640) of an ad for the *ARS Journal* and *Pacific Horticulture*.
- Extensions/canopies will be used for the entry side of the Show tent. Jim will check on what MCBG has available. Joyce will be asked to check with the Soroptimists if necessary. The **next Show Com. meeting will be at 11 am on Wed, 12/18**, to see how the tents are set up for the Gardens' Xmas program.
- No one has volunteered to be in charge of the Silent Auction. It's not reasonable for those already involved to take on this responsibility. Hopefully, someone in the Chapter will volunteer to do so.
- Having a wine auction was discussed. There was not enough support for it and no action was taken.
- A motion (Jones/McKiver) to reinstate Photo as a judged event, that would count towards the Sweepstakes award, was passed.
- A motion that all categories be judged and eligible for Best of Show and the Sweepstakes Award was not passed (4 yes and 4 no). It was agreed to revisit this motion at the January Show meeting after **the membership has had an opportunity for input**.
- The Garden Club will be encouraged to enter floral arrangements, but will not have a 'recruiting' table inside the tent.
- Dennis, John, and Jim will make arrangements (selection, delivery, and payment) with Log Cabin Nursery so as to have plants 2 months before the Show.

Respectfully submitted,
Dick Jones

Rhododendron of the Month

Submitted by Dennis McKiver

“FRAGRANTISSIMUM IMPROVED”

(aka “Fragrantissimum COMPACT”, aka “Improved Fragrantissimum”)

R. edgeworthii x *R. ciliicalyx*, Maddeni group

This very fragrant hybrid has been around for awhile but has never been registered, probably because the hybridizer is unknown and there is a question as to its parentage. It is listed in various places as an unknown *R. edgeworthii* hybrid, as *R. edgeworthii* X *R. ciliicalyx*, and as *R. edgeworthii* X *R. formosum* which is the cross of the registered hybrid ‘Fragrantissimum.’ I believe the cross is most likely *R. edgeworthii* X *R. ciliicalyx*. The large, fragrant, white, funnel-shaped flowers with a pink-tinged flare are most closely that of *R. ciliicalyx* and the foliage is medium-sized, dark green, puckered as in the one parent *R. edgeworthii*.

Although this is a cross of two tender species in the maddenii group, it is rated at +15°F. It will withstand light freezing during the winter and still bloom. I have not had to protect it from winter frosts in order for it to bloom like some of my other tender maddenii. Flowers usually appear in late March and early April whereas ‘Fragrantissimum’ usually blooms in April and May. ‘Fragrantissimum Improved’ is much tighter growing and more compact than ‘Fragrantissimum’. It is an upright, well-branched plant that is easy to grow where adapted, whereas ‘Fragrantissimum’ is much more leggy and is best grown as an espalier against a wall or tree. Some people don’t like the name “Fragrantissimum Improved” because they don’t think it is an improvement over the registered ‘Fragrantissimum.’ Because “Fragrantissimum Improved” is most likely a different cross, it should probably be called by a different name or more appropriate “Fragrantissimum Compact” which is a name that it is sometimes sold as.

I have my “Fragrantissimum Improved” growing in a large 25 gallon black plastic pot in full sun. The result is that it usually blooms fully twice a year, once in the fall and again in the spring. This will probably not be the case with one planted in a more shaded location. This is my favorite fragrant maddenii in my garden. If I had room for only one fragrant rhododendron, I would get this one. It very much lives up to its name with its fragrance.



Clear As Mud 101

Do you know *Roy G Biv*? If so, then you know the colors of the light spectrum (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, & violet). If you studied music as a child it is very unlikely you didn’t know that, *Every good boy does fine*. If you did then you knew the notes of the lines of the treble clef. Mnemonic devices such as these can help us to remember things.

Spring Forward. Fall back.

Will a jolly man make a jolly visitor?

Never eat shredded wheat.

You can probably sort out which of these match the points of the compass, how to set your watch when daylight savings starts or ends, and the first 8 presidents.

Taxonomy is a systematic way to classify organisms. Although classification in the natural world was done as early as Plato and Aristotle, Carl Linnaeus is generally credited with laying the ground work for our traditional scheme which starts with a “kingdom” and ends with a “species”. But what’s in between?

King Philip came over from Germany slowly.

This mnemonic refers to the taxonomic hierarchy: kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species. Actually, this is for animals, whereas the term “section” is often used for plants instead of “phylum”.

To further confuse things the term “section” is also used in the rhododendron genus between the “subgenera” level and the “subsection” level.

So what does this have to do with our interest in rhododendrons?

For a start mosses and hornworts differ from flowering plants at the phylum (aka section) level.

Ferns, conifers, and flowering plants differ at the class level.

Oaks, roses, and rhododendrons are in different families, respectively, the Fagaceae, the Rosaceae, and the Ericaceae (i.e. the *heath* family).

Azaleas differ from what most of us recognize as “true” rhododendrons in that they only have 5 anthers per flower. This distinction is made by placing them in two different subgenera than other rhododendrons.

The elepidotes and the lepidotes are also placed into different subgenera, as are the vireyas.

“Species” can be found for any of these rhododendron subgenera. Today many plants labelled as “species” may in fact be from seeds from field pollinated parents so really are hybrids (with one parent being unknown.)

The hybrids that most of us recognize and grow are the result of crossing different parents. It’s probably best to think of these as subspecies.

Dennis’ article to the left illustrates that all of this is clear as mud!

Disclaimer: Like all things, change will occur and with man’s widespread influence (e.g. moving life forms, global warming, genetically modifying organisms, etc.) our criteria for classifying will continue to be modified.

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Wellness		
Editor	Dick Jones	964-4353, dic@mcn.org

*Board of Directors

Mark Your Calendars

2013-2014 Meeting Schedule

Meetings typically are at the Presbyterian Church in Fort Bragg **starting at 7:00 pm.**

•Wednesday, Nov. 20

Dan Charvet, Camellias

•Wednesday, Dec. 11

Xmas Potluck

•Wednesday, Dec. 18, 11 am

Show Com, MCBG, Meeting Rm

•Wednesday, Jan. 22

•Wednesday, Feb. 26

•Wednesday, March 26

•Wednesday, April 23

•Sat - Sun, May 10 - 11

Noyo Chapter

Show and Plant Sale

•Spring Potluck TBA

Feb. 21-22, 2014

International Vireya Seminar, Hawaii

May 16 - 18, 2014

ARS Annual Convention, Cleveland, OH

Noyo Chapter

American Rhododendron Society

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