

Noyo News

NOYO CHAPTER
AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY
APRIL 2022



President's Message

Greetings

Can it be? Yes! It's **Show Time!** There is a lot of detailed work going on behind the scenes getting this year's Rhododendron show together. This is a very exciting times for our Chapter! Would you like to part of something very important and also a lot of fun? **If you can help (and we desperately need it) call Fran at 707 357 1064.**

The members who delivered **Rhododendron Trusses to Business** up and down our coast are still talking about how fun it was. We place a Truss in wine bottles and deliver them, it is so rewarding to see the smiles and joy in spreading the word about our show. We have identified more than 250 businesses. We need wine bottles and trusses too.

Other opportunities are **the plant sale**. Lots of people really want to buy plants that will succeed where they live, but do not know how or what kind will thrive. You can be a great help in helping them find the right Rhododendron for their yard. Due to the large amount of traffic we are required by the Gardens to provide **Parking management** (helping people to locate a parking spot). So, lots of fun ways to help.

Many ask how do I enter a truss in the show that will become a winner? At our next meeting Wednesday, April 27, Dennis McKiver will be advising us on which trusses to choose and how to prepare them to be a winning display. Sound simple? Dennis will tell yus all the ins and outs on the work and knowledge it takes for a winner!

The ARS International Conference will be held in Portland, OR and Vancouver, WA May 6-8 is an excellent educational opportunity. This is relatively close and if you have not been to a ARS conference you will be amazed at the speakers and knowledge you gain by attending. The fellowship in talking with experts as well as Rhododendron gardeners is worth attending all be itself. You can find all the information in your Winter 2022 ARS Journal insert between pages 28 & 29.

Opportunities to help our chapter abound. We need several willing volunteers to serve on our board of directors. Also if you should feel inclined, you could run for president. 😊

A Celebration Of Life was held for our friend Rosalie Stanley. If you would like to donate to our chapter in her memory, please send contact Fran.

If you would like to honor her memory please volunteer to help our chapter! Do what Rosalie did since 2004 !!

Keep in mind that our chapter will have a Mini Show for chapter members only. Mini Show will be held the end of May... there will be more information soon. Try to save some trusses if you can.

Ted Steinhardt
President



ALL HANDS ON DECK

OUR CHAPTER NEEDS YOU!

LOTS OF VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE WEEK BEFORE THE SHOW

Truss Delivery to more than 250 local businesses
Our wine bottle trusses are a huge hit here in Fort Bragg and beyond. Business owners are anxiously awaiting delivery.
YOU CAN HELP!

Wednesday, May 11: We need trusses! The trusses must have at least a four inch stem to reach into the wine bottle and hit water. Please bring as many as you can to LeeAnn's house 30056 Sherwood Rd, Fort Bragg. LeeAnn can pick up trusses that have been cut and ready to go...just send her an email.

Thursday, May 12: We need to delivery the wine bottles/trusses. There are several lists of locations between Cleone and Albion. This is a lot of driving and running around, but it is really fun and the businesses love it! There is a flyer too, that explains to the business what's up. But, most businesses are already looking forward to the colorful delivery.

Judging Help

Assisting the judges is a big responsibility and a great way to quickly learn about Rhodies.

Friday, May 13 at 2pm at the Gardens: One runner, two recorders and two clerks.

LOTS OF VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE SHOW MAY 14 AND 15

Our show/plant sale draws lots of folks from around the area and beyond. Because of that and the normal Botanical Gardens visitors we need help. We are required by The Gardens to provide parking assistance service. Helping drivers find the closest parking is easy and rewarding.

During the show we also have a few time slots that need filling:

Need a plant sales person both days

For the plant sale from 9-11 on Sunday morning.

For the plant raffle, one person Sunday morning from 9 to 1.



We still need wine bottles!! Please bring any you have to our April meeting. No need to remove the labels.



Rhody of the Month **Golden Gate**

Funnel-shaped flowers have orange to red to yellow coloring. Blooms are held in an open truss with about 10 flowers. Leaves are deep green & glossy on this dense, compact plant. Blooms late mid-season & reaches roughly 3 feet tall.

Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!' —Robin Williams



April 25 is World Penguin Day

This is a great opportunity to learn about and appreciate one of the few natives of Antarctica. On these days, spend a little time learning about them.... a pictorial book or internet site is fun. You can also watch a documentary of these cute and popular, grounded birds.

These days are also a time to wear black and white--- penguin colors. However, wearing a tuxedo in their honor is optional. It is also popular today to tell a penguin joke or two.

Membership News

If you have friends, or neighbors with Rhodies, they would benefit from being involve in our Chapter.

Attached is a membership application or just call me and pass on their name and contact information.

Thanks! Fran

Need a great gift for that certain gardener? A membership is a fantastic way to support our chapter and get more people involved in The Wonderful World of Rhodies!

ARS Application for Membership

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Mail to: Ted & Fran Steinhardt, 23551 Shady Lane, Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Memberships are on a calendar year. Please make Noyo my home chapter.

Individual/Family \$40, Commercial/Corporate \$90, Sustaining \$75, Sponsoring \$150

As an added incentive: All new members get a free gallon Rhody of their choice!

Meeting information

April 27 at 7pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Fort Bragg, 367 S Sanderson Way.

If you like, please bring a snack/drinks to share! Anything would be appreciated from hors d'oeuvres to desserts.

Our very own Dennis McKiver will be speaking on the best ways to present winning trusses for the show!



April 22 is Earth Day

Rethink, Recycle, Reuse and Reduce



Garden Tips of the Month with Dennis McKiver.

People often ask me to look at their plants and tell them what's wrong with it. The plants often look like this:



The answer is often nothing.

If your plant is not looking good, see if you can find someone who has the same plant and see how theirs is doing. Plants with the same names will most likely have been grown from cuttings and will therefore be genetic copies of each other. So if the condition of the leaves is environmentally caused it will most likely show up on another identical plant in the same area. Often when one of my plants is not looking good and I'll go to the Botanical Gardens and find the same plant looking in the same condition. Sometimes it doesn't even have to be the same plant.

For example, we have been going through a drought and have had a lot of wind. Some of my rhododendrons show a lot of leaf damage as in the example photos above. I have noticed the wild *R. macrophyllum* in the area also showing similar leaf damage. I have also seen the same type of leaf damage on other ericaceous plants.



Such as these Madrones which are very closely related to rhododendrons. Some of the environmental conditions causing leaf damage are:

1. Early blooming rhododendrons like the Arboreums and Arboreum hybrids will also put out early new growth. This tender new growth can be damaged by wind and frost, especially if the plant is stressed from lack of water.
2. Also stressed plants can be more susceptible to plant diseases and insect damage.

Other causes of leaf damage might be caused by us. Often it's caused by us applying too much fertilizer or fertilizing at the wrong time. It helps to know the parentage of your rhododendrons. Not all rhododendrons have the same fertilizer requirements. Some drink it up and some do better without any. The arboreums, yakushimanums and strigillosums and their hybrids tend to not need or want any added fertilizer. If they get too much you will burn the leaf tips. Sometimes, especially if we have potted rhododendrons the salts from the fertilizer can build up in the pots and this can cause leaf burn. Sometimes these pots are the whole in the ground that we dug to plant the rhododendron. That's another reason it's best to plant Rhodies top of the mineral soil and not in it.



On another note, for those rhododendrons that need a little fertilizer Costco currently has a good deal on Holly-tone.

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*Noyo Chapter Newsletter is published monthly except when it is not.
We love members to submit items, articles, photos and interesting tidbits. Please send them along to LeeAnn Dickson, Newsletter Editor at ladickson222@gmail.com. The Noyo Chapter is a member of the American Rhododendron Society a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. <http://www.noyochapterars.com/>*