

# Noyo News

**NOYO CHAPTER  
AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY  
OCTOBER 2021  
President's Message**



By now you should have received your surprise in the mail!

Several members have asked if in lieu of paying their membership, could they make a donation. Our Noyo Chapter will happily accept any and all donations. Make check payable to: Noyo Chapter ARS P.O. Box 1068 Fort Bragg, California 95437. Thank you!

In the background, the Board has been busy with many aspects of our chapter. We are in the process of ratifying the proposed Chapter's Bylaws to allow for voting by mail or email. We are looking utilizing our website more. We are in the beginning stages of planning an in-person Rhododendron Show the weekend of May 14-15, 2022.

All this to say we truly need more members on our Board of Directors. We will be having an election soon. So if you are interested in participating in any way at all, please call Ted Steinhardt 707 357-1995.

October Chapter Meeting The Board has planned all along to share a speaker with the Eureka Chapter ARS. (We have done this in the past to save both Chapters cost on speaker fees and motels etc.). Eureka Chapter has decided not to do an in-person meeting this month. However our speaker was lined up and will be speaking on a Zoom meeting Thursday, October 28.

We will once again send out to all the Zoom link. Our speaker is Dennis Bottermiller from Federal Way, Washington. Dennis was is in charge of propagation and the Conservatory at the Rhododendron Species garden. Dennis has been our speaker at several other meetings, and we are honored to have once again. More information about him follows. You will definitely learn much information just listening to Dennis. The Zoom platform allows for questions and answers after his presentation.



## **Quote of the month:**

Gardening is learning, learning, learning. That's the fun of them. You're always learning. –**Helen Mirren**

# Virtual Meeting with the Eureka Chapter

Again our Board has decided in keeping with safety guidelines will not meet in person this month. We are encouraging all of you to join in on the Zoom meeting of the Eureka chapter on Thursday, October 28.

You will be sent the link and you just click on it and it will say Launch meeting. They have a wonderful speaker for the night. Dennis Botternmiller of Federal Way, Washington. He has been a great speaker in the past and we are looking forward to hearing from him again.

Details on the Zoom meeting as they become available.

## Membership News

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!

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### 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

## **Did you get your card????**

We hope you got your card! The one telling you your dues have been paid for next year. 😊

With that surprise several members have asked to make a donation to our chapter. If you like, please Make check payable to: Noyo Chapter ARS P.O. Box 1068 Fort Bragg, California 95437



## Howling Days!

All Hallows Eve is the big holiday in October. However, there are a whole lot of other great holidays to celebrate during this tenth month of the year. Here are just a few.

**October 12** brings us: Old Farmers Day. When we honor the hard labor of farmers throughout American history. Early American culture was heavily a farming culture and October is harvest time! Farmers can take a break from their labors to enjoy a autumnal celebration. We owe so much to these folks for their contributions to American culture, values, society and the economy.

National Meatloaf Day is almost here! On **October 18** we celebrate this humble and not so healthy entrée. Once a staple for a budget friendly meal, it has now morphed into a gourmets delight! Ground beef is the traditional base, however modern recipes now call for pork, turkey and sometime game meats.

Let's all throw together and work to Make a Difference on its day the **4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of October (the 23<sup>rd</sup> this year)**. Started in 1990, this national day is devoted to helping others by doing volunteer work in the community. Millions of Americans participate in community improvement projects, such as trash pick up, gardening, and repair work. There are no rules on who can help...it just matters that you participate.

A dentist's delight is National Candy Corn Day. **October 30, 2021**. These delicious kernels of pure sugar are a real treat. Made of sugar, corn syrup and coloring candy corn was invented in the 1880s by George Renninger of the Wunderle Candy Company in Pennsylvania. The sweet treats were mass produced under the name of Chicken Feed by the Goelitz Confectionery Company during the 1900s. The bite sized pieces were sold in a box that pictured a rooster and marketed under the tagline "Something worth crowing for."

# Happy Halloween!

## Garden Tips of the Month with Dennis McKiver.

October is a good month for planting and pruning.

When I purchase one gallon rhododendrons in the Spring I like to repot them up to five gallon pots. Then I can keep them together where I can keep them watered through the summer. That way they have time to develop new roots and spread out before I plant them out.

If you plant them out in the yard in the fall they have time to settle in and establish themselves through the winter and spring rains where you don't have to worry about them and then they won't need as much water during the summer.

Fall is also a good time to prune your rhododendron if you want to reduce its size especially if you are planning on moving it in the future. You never want to do drastic pruning in the fall where you are not leaving any foliage. You can do this in the Spring just before the rhododendron normally puts out new growth after blooming, but if you remove all the foliage in the fall your plant may not have enough stored energy to make it to Spring.

What I like to do in the Fall if I'm going to reduce the size of a rhododendron, so I don't miss out on a season of blooms, I prune off every branch that doesn't have a flower bud on it. That way all the energy will go into flower buds and I will get extra-large blooms for our show. Right after it blooms I will finish pruning the rhododendron down to a manageable size to move.

I will then let the new growth come out and grow through the summer. That fall I will cut the roots to a manageable size around the drip line, dig up the rhododendron and move it to its new location. Set the rhododendron in its new location on top of the ground and mulch around and over the root ball. Keep the root ball covered in mulch as it roots itself in all winter and spring.



A couple of examples of Dennis' hard work. These fabulous trusses are from his yard! 😊



## Noyo Chapter Officers and Chairs

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\*indicates Board of Directors

*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](mailto:ladickson222@gmail.com). The Noyo Chapter is a member of the American Rhododendron Society a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. <http://www.noyochapterars.com/>*