

AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

## Eureka Chapter

*The next meeting will be  
Thursday, January 26, 7:30 p.m.  
Christ Episcopal Church  
15th and H Streets  
Eureka, California*

*Pre-Meeting No Host Dinner  
5:15 PM  
Mazzotti's Italian Food  
305 F Street, Eureka  
Call Nelda to make your reser-  
vation 707-443-8049*



Magnolia Caerhay's Belle, photo by Tim Walsh

January 2006

### **PATRICK OSBORN FROM THOMPSON'S NURSERY**

will be our featured guest speaker January 26 at 7:30 PM at the Christ Episcopal Church in Eureka at 15th and H Streets.

When Patrick married Michele Thompson he joined as a third generation owner/operator of the Thompson's Nursery. He and Michelle have added to the fourth generation with 4 year old Avery and four month old Ethan. Located on 120 acres of the best land to be found at Waldport, Oregon Thompson's Nursery is one of the best and most beautiful nurseries on the West Coast. Thompson's excel in producing superb new hybrids, propagating unusual species, and exceptional rhododendron plants for the nursery trade.

Patrick has a degree in Horticulture from Oregon State University, focusing on ornamental plants and production. He has been with Thompson's for 8+ years where he has excelled in raising and knowing Rhododendrons. One of his specialties is grafting; Thompson's graft several different species, forms, F1's, and a few hybrids in a commercial setting. Patrick has agreed to give us all of his secrets to success.

His presentation will encompass grafting techniques that anyone can learn and implement. Patrick will discuss the development of a protocol to ensure the best possible results. Everyone will get a chance to 'try it out'. The presentation will be based on the system that Thompson's uses. Patrick says, "At Thompson's we strike as we graft".

Thompson's Nursery is justly famous for its beautifully grown species and hybrid Rhododendrons. They have registered many well known hybrids; R. *Tiddly Winks*, R. *Sunspot*, R. *Flaming Star*, R. *Mango Tango*, R. *Tweedy Bird*, R. *Ring of Fire* and R. *Cupcake*, to name but a few.

**Patrick will be bringing plants to the meeting, so get that stash of Christmas money out of the cookie jar because you are sure to want to bring a few plants home. See the next page for a plant list and some very pretty pictures provided by Don Wallace.**

*Photos are those of the Newsletter editor, June Walsh, unless otherwise noted. Permission is granted to reprint any portion of this publication provided credit to the author and Chapter is given.*

## Exciting rhododendron species and unusual hybrids coming to the next Eureka ARS meeting!

### HYBRIDS:

'Bambi x <i>proteoides</i> ' (pink)	1 gal. \$12.00
' <i>bureavii</i> x <i>pronum</i> '	1 gal. \$15.00
'May Morn x <i>proteoides</i> '	1 gal \$12.00
'Proteo-pron'	1 gal. \$15.00
' <i>proteoides</i> x <i>macabeanum</i> ' (best foliage)	1 gal. \$15.00
' <i>proteoides</i> x <i>macabeanum</i> ' (yellowest flower)	1 gal. \$15.00

### SPECIES:

<i>argyrophyllum</i> var. <i>nankingense</i> 'Chinese Silver'	2 gal. \$16.00
<i>Bathyphyllum</i>	2 gal. \$16.00
<i>Burmaniucum</i>	1 gal. (few flowers) \$12.00
<i>campylocarpum</i> ssp. <i>Caloxanthum</i>	1 gal. \$12.00
<i>cinnabarinum</i> ssp. <i>Xanthocodon</i>	1 gal. \$10.00
<i>cintriniflorum</i> var. <i>horaeum</i>	1 gal. \$10.00
<i>Forestii</i>	1 gal. \$10.00
<i>formosum</i> v. <i>formosum</i>	3 gal. \$12.00
<i>Griersonianum</i>	2 gal. (flowers) \$12.00
<i>haematodes</i> ssp. <i>Chaetomallum</i>	1 gal. \$15.00
<i>Makinoid</i>	1 gal. \$10.00
<i>montroseanum</i> (selfed, seedlings)	2 gal. \$15.00
<i>Pronum</i>	1 gal. \$20.00
<i>proteoides</i> (Cecil Smith)	1 gal. \$20.00
<i>pseudochrysanthum</i> , Exbury Form	1 gal. \$10.00
<i>recurvoides</i> (K.W. 7184)	3 gal. \$16.00
<i>roxieanum</i> 59589	2 gal. \$16.00
<i>Sphaeroblastum</i>	2 gal. \$16.00
<i>Tsariense</i>	1 gal. \$16.00

Pictures provided by Don Wallace



Rh. roxieanum



Rh. Formosum

## Welcome Rhodie Geeks! (Shameless Advertisement!)

Just a quick note to urge you to attend the upcoming meeting of the Eureka Chapter next **Thursday January 26th at 7:30** in the evening. We have ordered a number of **special Rhododendrons** for the chapter at **very good prices**, just over wholesale. The **Thompson's Nursery** is most likely the number one wholesale Rhododendron nursery on the west coast and with good reason. They not only have a huge list of hybrids and species but they also provide retailers with **clean, well-grown and beautiful plants**. This will be an opportunity to acquire some very unusual and striking plants for your garden at very reasonable prices. We hope you will take advantage of this chance to see some great plants and meet one of the growers in-person as well!

Submitted by, Tim Walsh



Rh. pseudochrysanthum



Rh. cinnabarinum



Rh. proteoides

Photos provided by Don Wallace

**Eureka Chapter, American Rhododendron Society**  
**Meeting Minutes October 27, 2005**

The meeting was called to order by President **Paula Trinoskey** at 7:38 p.m. at the Episcopal Church in Eureka. Thirty-seven members and four guests were present. Guests **Bonnie Anderson**, **Gail Ledbetter** (former member) and **Kim and Marilyn Miller** were introduced. New members **Ron and Betty Bottemiller** were recognized. Treasurer **Tim Walsh** reported a balance of \$11,643.14. **Don Wallace** described the raffle plants and the door prize. June Walsh reported that forty plus members have renewed. Don and Tim reported that the plants have been purchased for the plant sale in the spring and that the gardens for the tour are pretty well set. The show, plant sale and garden tour are to be held on the same weekend. **Jerry Reynolds** indicated that the permit process for using St. Bernard's school is progressing. Tim reported that the national conference in 2007 is to be held in the Bay Area with our chapter leading the host chapters.

Before the break **Catherine Weeks** gave an excellent program on successful Rhododendron cutting propagation. She had two handouts, both of which were very helpful. Catherine suggested that this time of year is very good for starting cuttings. Following the break, **Verne Trinoskey** introduced **Rich Simpson** and **Linda Swanson** of Bamboo and Maples. Rich gave a very interesting and informative program on clumping bamboo. Clumping bamboo are less invasive than runners and are better adapted to our climate.

The door prize was awarded to **Nova Cramer**. Following the raffle Paula announced that the annual Christmas potluck will be held Wednesday, December 7. She thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Bruce Palmer, Secretary

**WORD OF THE MONTH** By Bruce Palmer

This month's word is a maverick – **botany**. Nearly all specialized studies in biology end in –ology, meaning a study. Not botany. Its roots are obscure, probably from the Greek botanikos, but possibly from the French boskein, to feed. The use of the word is not consistent either. It can be the study of plants or a book about plants or a description of the plants of a specific area as in the botany of Humboldt County. The last use might seem appropriate but we use the term ecology incorrectly when we say the ecology of Humboldt County to describe the environment here. The proper term is ecosystem. So how did botany come into standard use? No one seems to know. Now that we have several more than two kingdoms (or no kingdoms at all) and the lines between plants, animals and other living organisms are blurred, maybe it doesn't matter. We know what the word means, right?

### Member Profile-Dee Spencer and Loie Cabeceira

Our mother/daughter team joined the Eureka Chapter after our Potluck in June 2005. Loie (pictured left below) is our most senior member at...well she was born in the teens of the last century. They garden on 2/3 acre in Cutten and must have fertile ground as they have brought plants to share to several meetings. Their garden challenges are steep hillsides, weeds, the ubiquitous Humboldt clay, huge trees (which may be less after the New Year's eve storm), too much shade and a huge population of giant slugs. And if those garden troubles were not enough they have bear, deer, skunks and raccoons!

All of which sparked their interest in Rhododendrons with their evergreen foliage, fragrance, incomparable bloom and they are not too tasty to deer.

Loie's (pronounced "Loy") favorite rhododendrons are; Pink Pearl, Point De-fiance and Trude Webster. Dee's (pictured right below) favorites are; Lem's Cameo, Cream Glory and Loderi King George (very fragrant). They like to add azaleas, white candy tuft (iberis) alyssum and hostas to their woodland mix.

Their favorite gardens are; The Japanese Garden in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco and Butchart Garden on Vancouver Island, BC.



### The Rhododendron Year

**JANUARY,** Use small amounts of dolomite to increase calcium and magnesium. This will help your rhododendrons assimilate other important nutrients.

Do you need a break from winter? Check out the Winter garden shows:

[www.gardenshow.com](http://www.gardenshow.com)

Eureka Chapter is published monthly except during July and August. Submissions from members are encouraged and should be mailed to June Walsh, Bulletin Editor, 2050 Irving Drive, Eureka, CA 95503-7022. Membership information and applications are also available from June Walsh. Eureka Chapter is a member of the Humboldt Botanical Gardens Foundation, Eureka, Calif, and The Rhododendron Species Foundation, Federal Way, Wash. Eureka Chapter is a chapter of the American Rhododendron Society.

## Eureka Chapter

Eureka Chapter/American Rhododendron Society  
2050 Irving Drive  
Eureka, CA 95503-7022

### Eureka Chapter, American Rhododendron Society Meeting Minutes December 7, 2005

The annual Christmas potluck of the ARS Eureka Chapter was held at the Christ Episcopal Church in Eureka on Wednesday, December 7. Thirty-seven members and two guests were present. The dinner began at 6:45 p.m. and was the usual tremendously successful spread, enjoyed by all.

The regular meeting was called to order by President Paula Trinoskey at 7:45 p.m. Guest John Hafstrom was introduced. Treasurer Tim Walsh reported a balance of \$12,226. Don Wallace described the raffle plants and the door prize. Trusses were shared by Don Wallace and Tom Martin. Tim reported that the National Conference will be held in the Bay Area in the Spring of 2007, hosted by the Eureka, Noyo, Cal , Monterey and DeAnza Chapters.

Following the break, slides were shown by Hal Braafladt, Don Wallace, Tim Walsh and Jerry Reynolds.

The raffle was held and Paula thanked everyone for attending. She adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bruce Palmer, Secretary

### Future Programs

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| February 23 | Mike Bones, the most enthusiastic Rhodo-geek in the world |
| March 23    | Joann Olson, about the fungus among us                    |
| April 27    | Get ready for the Flower Show                             |
| April 29    | Flower Show and Plant Sale, St. Bernard's School, Eureka  |
| April 30    | Rhododendron Garden Tour                                  |
| May 25      | To be announced   |
| June 22     | Potluck and Lucille Whitman.....                          |