AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

Eureka Chapter

The next meeting (see details below) SUNDAY, June 11, 2006 1:00 p.m.

Member and Guest Garden Tour and Potluck



June 2006

SUNDAY June 11, 2006 1:00 p.m.

Member and Guest Garden Tour and Potluck

Come join your friends for a Garden Tour and Potluck on Sunday June 11th. Bring your family, friends and prospective members as we tour the gardens of Bruce and Nelda Palmer, Charlie and Donna Pace, Nova Cramer and Tom and Aileen Martin. We will end with a potluck at the Martin's. After the potluck Tom will teach us how to make Tom's Terrific Tough Tufa Troughs (see story on page 3).

Beginning at 1:00 p.m. We will meet at the garden of Bruce and Nelda Palmer in Cutten. From there we will travel caravan-fashion, car pooling would be great, to the other gardens and finally to the Martin's arriving at the Martin's about 2:45-3:00.

1:00 p.m. Palmer's Garden Take H Street South until it becomes Campton Road, follow Campton until it intersects with Walnut Drive. Turn Right onto Walnut. Watch for the SECOND right, Canyon Drive. Head to the left down the rough road and follow it down the canyon and back up the other side. At the top of the hill is a circle drive and the Palmer's garden. (if you get lost call June's cell 498-2337)

Next: Pace's Garden on Humboldt Hill, 6258 Abrahamsen Court. From the Palmer's go back to Walnut and turn right onto Walnut Drive. Walnut eventually becomes Elk River Road as it goes towards Eureka. At Herrick turn left and take the 101 <u>South</u> freeway onramp. The next off ramp is Humboldt Hill Road (Exit 701). Continue on Humboldt Hill Road for about 1 mile to Bay View Lane, turn left, then turn right onto Abrahamsen. The Pace's are at the end of Abrahamsen.

Next: Nova Cramer's Garden 7157 Humboldt Hill Road. Go back to Humboldt Hill Road and turn left. Go up Humboldt Hill Road about 1 mile to Nova's garden on the left. Finally the Martin's Garden...next page please,

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.

Garden Tour and Potluck continued...

The Martin's Garden, 2250 Irving Drive From Nova's garden go back down Humboldt Hill Road to Parkwood, turn left onto Parkwood at the end of Parkwood turn right onto London, at Burns Drive turn left. The next street is Irving turn left. Tom and Aileen are at the end of the drive. Watch to your right for the New Years' storm devastation!

Potluck information;

Bring salad, side dish, dessert or appetizers to share, the Chapter will supply the main dish. Plates, napkins utensils will be provided.

Bring your own beverage (BYOB).

Call June at 707-443-0604 to make your reservation. We will order the main dish based on the number of RSVP's.

The Word of the Month By Bruce Palmer

This month's word is "Hormone". Even though the word derives from the Greek "hormaein", to excite, very few hormones are concerned with sex. Hormones cause enzymes to build or break down proteins. Everything in a cell is a protein or is made by enzymes, which are specific proteins, so any substance that can control an enzyme's action has great significance in a cell. In animals, hormones are typically secreted by specific cells in discreet organs and exert their influence somewhere else in the body. The growth hormone in humans, for example, is secreted by the cells in the pituitary gland in the brain but influences in different ways all over the body. "Hormone" was put in quotation marks in the last column on phototropism because the generally accepted definition doesn't fit plants. Plant "hormones" are not typically secreted in specific cells or organs and usually affect the cells in which they are secreted as well as surrounding cells. The most obvious current effect of plant "hormones" in our gardens is the bolting and flowering in foxgloves, delphiniums, columbines, lupines, teasels and lots of other garden plants and weeds. These plants sit around for months or years, then suddenly put up one or more long stalks and flower. This process of elongating to produce a flowering stem is called bolting. We know the direct cause of the bolting but a lot of the details remain a mystery despite extensive research. Changes in day length and temperature cause increases in the amounts of **Gibberellins** in the plant cells. Gibberellins (from the Latin for the fungal lumps, Gibbae, in rice where the substance was first isolated) are growth "hormones" in plants that cause increases in cell division and elongation. Exactly how this works isn't very clear, in part because every time we turn around someone has isolated a new type of gibberellin. At last count there were more than sixty-five different gibberellins known in plants and fungi. Botanists and horticulturists keep hoping to get a clear handle on this problem so flowering and fruiting can be controlled more exactly. When that happens maybe we won't have to worry every year that our flower show will be too early or too late.

NO MEETING JUNE 22 COME TO THE TOUR AND POTLUCK JUNE 11TH



This Tufa pot was made with instruction from Mike Bones and has been in the Walsh garden for many years. *Photo by Tim Walsh*

Tom's Terrific Tough Tufa Troughs

Use of stone troughs as plant containers began in England in the 1920's as cast iron enameled sinks were replacing stone ones. Gardeners realized that these stone receptacles were ideal to use as planters. A collection of small plants, arranged artfully, made an attractive addition to the garden. Small rhododendrons like R. radicans, dwarf conifers and selected sedum can be used successfully in troughs.

Few of us have stone sinks so hyper-tufa pots have been made for many years to replicate the look of stone.

The Chapter will provide the ingredients to make the tufa:

- 2 parts peat
- 2 parts construction sand
- 1 part Portland cement
- a handful of fiberglass of plastic reinforcing fibers

What YOU need to bring:

- Plastic or rubber gloves to handle the cement mixture.
- A container in which to make your trough. (10 inches wide x 12 inches long x 6 inches deep is a good starter size). Sturdy cardboard boxes, old dishpans or turkey roasters (not one you will use in the kitchen), plastic pots, all work well.
- An old broom stick, broken shovel handle or other tool for tamping the material.
- A strong plastic garbage bag in which to take you project home. It will need to dry
 for about a week in the bag.
- A good sense of humor and a little imagination.

Call June at 707-443-0604 to make your reservation. We will order the materials based on the number of RSVP's.



Eureka Chapter, American Rhododendron Society Meeting Minutes March 23, 2006

The meeting was called to order by President Paula Trinoskey at 7:37 p.m. Twenty-two members and four guests were present. Guests David Anderson, Doug Foland, Joan Olson and Gene Schnell were introduced. Trusses were shared by Willie McCarthy, Nelda Palmer and Don Wallace. Don Wallace described the raffle plants. Treasurer Tim Walsh reported a balance of \$11,769.44. Tim shared information on the 2007 International Conference to be held in the Bay Area at the Embassy Suites in South San Francisco. Jerry Reynolds and Nelda Palmer discussed the flower show, to be held this year at St. Bernard's School on Henderson Street. Nelda put out sign-up sheets for the show and plant sale and asked people to volunteer. Jerry stressed the importance of every member bringing some trusses to the show. Tim reported that the plant sale will be held at the flower show on Saturday, April 29 and at Trinoskey's house during the garden tour on Sunday, April 30. Don reported that there will be nine gardens on the tour. June asked for additional volunteers for the tour. Four volunteers per garden are needed. June and Paula thanked Ellie Gayner for helping with publicity for the meetings and the show. Prior to the break, a Rhody 101 session was conducted by Bruce Palmer and Jim Gayner with a demonstration of lepidote and elepidote Rhododendron leaves. During the break members viewed the leaves through the dissecting microscopes provided.

Following the break, Paula introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Joann Olson, from the Humboldt Bay Mycological Society. Joann gave a very informative talk about mushrooms and answered numerous questions. Bill Furst won the door prize. The raffle was held, Paula thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bruce Palmer, Secretary

Eureka Chapter, American Rhododendron Society Meeting Minutes April 27, 2006

The meeting was called to order by President Paula Trinoskey at 7:40 p.m. Thirty-two members and no guests were present.

Trusses were shared by Betty Bottemiller, Willie McCarthy and Don Wallace. Tim Walsh described the raffle plants which were Vireyas brought from Hawaii by guest speakers Fran Jackson and Jean Martin.

Treasurer Tim Walsh reported a balance of \$10,055.01, down somewhat because of plant purchases and show and tour expenses.

Tim shared information on the 2007 International Conference to be held in the Bay Area at the Embassy Suites in South San Francisco. Jerry Reynolds and Nelda Palmer discussed the flower show, to be held this Saturday at St. Bernard's School on Henderson Street. Jerry used trusses brought to the meeting to illustrate how to select and prepare trusses for showing. Jerry announced that setup for the show will begin at 3 p.m. Friday and that trusses will be accepted beginning at 6 p.m. Friday and 7 a.m. Saturday. Tim reported that the Walshes brought 350 plants from Oregon for the show, not as many as in previous years. Don discussed the Sunday tour. Verne suggested that the gardens should be judged and prizes awarded. A motion passed unanimously supporting the idea for next year and putting Verne in charge. Prior to the break, June handed out the completed Proven Performers list.

Paula announced the slate of officers for 2006-2007 as follows:

President: Paula Trinoskey Vice President: Tim Walsh Secretary: Bill Furst

Treasurer: Tim Walsh

Show Chairs: Jerry Reynolds & Nelda Palmer

Membership Chair: June Walsh Program Chair: Don Wallace

Newsletter/Publicity Chairs: June Walsh & Ellie Gayner

Past President: Tom Martin

Following the break, Paula introduced the guest speakers for the evening, Fran Jackson and Jean Martin from the Hawaii Chapter of ARS. Fran and Jean gave an informative talk on Vireyas now being grown in Hawaii. Debby Brantley won the door prize. The raffle was held; Paula thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

Submitted by Bruce Palmer Secretary



Eureka Chapter/American Rhododendron Society 2050 Irving Drive Eureka, СА 95503-7022 Species Touridation, Tederal Way, Wash.
Eureka Chapter is a chapter of the American Rhododendron Society.

Eureka Chapter is a member of the Humboldt Botanical Gardens Foundation, Eureka, Calif., and The Rhododendron Species Foundation, Federal Way, Wash.

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, Welsh, Bulletin Editor, 2050 Irving Drive, Promets, CA 95503-7022.

Membership information and applications are also available from June

Eureka Chapter

Eureka Chapter, American Rhododendron Society Meeting Minutes May 25, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Tim Walsh at 7:40 p.m. Twenty-four members and six guests were present. Tim introduced guests Pat Hasen, Laura Winsler, and Chris Flanders and had all members present introduce themselves. Trusses were shared by Nelda Palmer, Jerry Reynolds, Don Wallace, Lynn Sarty, Willie McCarthy and Dee Spencer and Loie Cabeceira. Tim Walsh described the raffle plants, leftovers from the sale and announced that our guest speaker, Rich Simpson, has maples for sale, one of which was donated to the raffle. Treasurer Tim Walsh reported a balance of \$15,066.15 after the show, sale and tour. Some bills are yet to be processed. Tim again shared information on the 2007 International Conference to be held in the Bay Area at the Embassy Suites in South San Francisco. Jerry Reynolds and Nelda Palmer discussed the flower show. Jerry reported that the number of trusses displayed was down considerably but that the show went quite well the new location. He specially thanked Dee Spencer for hand lettering signs for the show.

Bruce Palmer, representing the nominating committee, handed out a list of the proposed officers for 2006-2007. The list is above in the April minutes. The vote will take place at the June meeting, as called for in the bylaws. Officers assume duties immediately following the vote.

Following the break, Tim introduced Rich Simpson from Bamboo and Maples, who gave a very informative talk on maples as companion plants to Rhododendrons. Guest Pat Hasen won the door prize. The raffle was held; Tim thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bruce Palmer, Secretary



Garden Tourists; From Top Left, Gail Ledbetter and Jean Timmerman. Top Right, Pat Wells. Bottom Left, Jill Mefford. Bottom Right, in a garden in Maryland Don Smart, ARS District 2 Director and our own Dee Daneri.