

## Eureka Chapter

*The next meeting*  
**Thursday May 22nd, 6:00 p.m.**  
*Woman's Club*  
1531 J Street  
Eureka, California

*Garden Tour and Potluck*  
**Sunday June 1st**  
*See full schedule on pages*  
**6 and 7**



June Blooms on Stagecoach Hill

**May and June 2014**  
**Mini Show and**  
**Garden Tour Edition**

**Members' Mini Show**  
***Let us See Your Bloomers!***

### SHOW US YOUR BLOOMERS

**Eureka Chapter Mini-Show and *Potluck Party***  
**Thursday, May 22nd at 6:00 p.m.**

The Thursday May 22nd meeting of the Eureka Chapter will be the annual Mini-Show. YOU get to be the judges! For all the efforts you put into cutting and grooming your entries you will be rewarded with **Potluck! Bring your favorite main dish, side dish, salads and desserts, to share with your fellow members.** The meeting will start at 6:00 so there will be time to fill out the entry tags for your '**Bloomers**' and place them on the show tables. Everything will be provided, all you need to do is bring your flowers, ***your sense of humor***, your potluck dish and a good appetite.

There will be a Judging Rhodo 101 show-and-tell explaining what to look for in blue ribbon winners as you select your favorite entries. ***The prizes are \$100 for the Blue Ribbon winner selected as Best of Show and \$25 for all other Blue Ribbon winners***, so it is well worth scouring your garden for a flower for one each of the 9 classes. **See page 2 for rules and classes.**

*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.*

## Eureka Chapter Mini-show Rules

Show Date: Thursday, May 22nd

This mini-show takes place at the May 22nd meeting. Entries are limited to members (Life, Regular, Associate, etc.) of the American Rhododendron Society's Eureka Chapter.

All exhibits must have been in the member's garden for at least six months before the show.

Members are limited to **one entry in each class**. Entries must be rhododendron trusses. No sprays or hammerheads will be judged. There is no class for azaleas.

Entries are based largely on color, but members are encouraged to include the name of the species or hybrid on the entry card for the benefit of other members. Trusses may be groomed and prepared according to the rules for the regular Eureka Chapter Truss Show and Plant Sale.

Classes shall consist of the following:

Class 1: Lepidote Rhododendron Species, regardless of color. (These include the Maddenii and most small-leafed rhododendrons.)

Class 2: Elepidote Rhododendron Species, regardless of color.

Class 3: Hybrid Rhododendrons, Red.

Class 4: Hybrid Rhododendrons, Pink.

Class 5: Hybrid Rhododendrons, White.

Class 6: Hybrid Rhododendrons, Purple, lavender or blue.

Class 7: Hybrid Rhododendrons, Yellow, orange or apricot.

Class 8: Hybrid Rhododendrons, Bicolor.

Class 9: Any Rhododendron truss entered for fragrance.

Judging shall be done by the members and guests attending the show. Each member and guest shall receive a ballot and may vote for one truss in each class by writing the entry-tag number on the ballot. Ties shall be broken by a member randomly selected by the show chair to cast a tie-breaking vote.

Once a winner has been selected in each class, members and guests will vote for the Best of Show on the Best of Show Ballot from among the first-place winners in each class.

**Awards: The Best of Show entry shall receive \$100; all other blue-ribbon winners shall receive \$25 each.** *Photos, 1 Judges make their choices and Last year's mini show winners, Nelda Palmer, Carol Ollivier, Dennis McKiver, Kelly Alaniz, Ellie Gaynor and Don Wallace.*





## WORD OF THE MONTH: PHENOLOGY

By Bruce Palmer

**PHENOLOGY** is a good word for this month, given the unusual blooming times of our rhododendrons this year. **Phenology** is a contraction of phenomenology and is not to be confused with the better known word phrenology (Greek, *phrenos*, mind and *logos*, study) practiced in the nineteenth century to link personality to skull shape. **Phenology** refers to the study of how cyclic occurrences like climate and weather affect such recurring things as the time and extent of flowering. The word is derived from the Greek *phanien*, to appear, and *logos*, a word or study. Our flower show last month certainly showed that an unusually dry and relatively mild winter can influence the timing of rhododendrons blooms. In a more typical year we get lots of *R. maddenii* species and their hybrids such as 'Patricia Marie' (hybridized by our own Dr. Hal Braafladt) and 'Mi Amor'. They are all fragrant and the hall smells like a florist shop. This year those flowers were mostly gone and we had masses of red, pink, yellow and bicolor hybrids. It was a much better show than was predicted but was very different. It will be interesting to see what May 22 brings. That's the date for our chapter's annual members-only Rhododendron flower show. All of our members need to bring the best trusses that the practice of **phenology** reveals. We have nine classes and we award real money to winners; that's why it is a members-only show. We don't have categories for azaleas or sprays. Each member may enter one truss in each category. If you have more, there is a table for display only. We always precede the meeting with a potluck dinner to allow time for members to place trusses. If you don't know if your plant is a species or a hybrid or a lepidote or elepidote, there are folks standing by to help. It's great fun and very educational every year. People attending the meeting judge the entries and pick the winners. You can use **phenology** to choose your best seasonal culinary dish to share. Plan to enter a truss in each of the categories. You too might win \$25 or \$100!

*Photos below by Bruce Palmer The camera perspective is different, but it is clear that there were lots more of the big, white trusses and sprays in the first row in 2011 compared to 2014*

Sue & Everett Tosten at the first row 2011



George Burtchett at the first row 2014



We would like to thank all the Chapter members who volunteered to help at the Rhododendron Show and Plant Sale. Without your participation it would not have been possible. Also, to everyone who provided entries, a big thank you. Even with the hot, then cold and windy, weather we had a spectacular display of Rhododendrons and Azaleas. A special thank you to Diane Larking, volunteer coordinator, Nelda Palmer, judging, and Margaret Cole, arrangements coordinator. Without these ladies help, the show would have not run as smoothly as it did. Now it is time to enjoy the Rhodies in our yards and start fertilizing and dead heading for next year. *Text and Photos By Tom and Mary Marking, Show Chairs*



### Plant of the Month: *Rhododendron* 'Noyo Snow'

*By Don Wallace*

Two of my favorite species of rhododendrons are *R. arboreum* and *R. degronianum* ssp. *yakushimanum*. This is a hybrid between these two excellent species. The *R. arboreum* is a large tree sized plant, often growing to 50 ft. in the wild, while the *R. degronianum* ssp. *yakushimanum* is considered a dwarf. This cross is still considered a dwarf as the plant will only get to be 4 feet tall in 10 years. *R. 'Noyo Snow'* is one of the nicest foliage plant in our gardens with dark green leaves that hold on the plant for 3 years, making it very dense and attractive. The flower buds open a light pink color, but quickly fade to a pure white. For those wanting a



'moon' garden with pure white flowers, this is a great candidate. The flowering is somewhat late, usually in late May, but this year it is in full bloom in early May. This plant seems to be quite happy in full sun or some shade. Even in shade you will get quite a show of flowers. The plant was hybridized by Bill Moyles of Oakland, CA. Bill recently passed away and will be known for his many hybrids of rhododendrons including many Vireyas.





Joan and Barney Elking shown in their garden in Fortuna

Long time member, **Barney Elking**, of the Eureka Chapter passed away on April 9, 2014. David "Barney" Elking was born April 20, 1931 in San Francisco. He was raised in Fortuna, graduated from Fortuna Union High School in 1948, and graduated from Humboldt State University in 1952.

Barney was a resident of Fortuna where he and his wife of 62 years, Joan, lived in Joan's pioneer family home on Main Street. The Eureka Chapter members

toured their lovely garden as a group and as individuals invited to enjoy a leisurely private tour. He was employed by Simpson Timber Company for 30 years. Upon his retirement he became known for the wonderful original carved Santa's that he created and that several Eureka Chapter members will always cherish. He is survived by his wife Joan, his daughter Karen and her children, Kris Taylor, Molly Taylor Morgan and her husband Matthew Morgan, and Kate Purcell; his son Mark and his wife Carole and their daughter Sarah.

We will all miss Barney's and his sparkling good humor .

## ***Sunday June 1st Garden Tour and Potluck Picnic***

We will meet at **Dorothy Dilling's woodland garden at 2969 Pigeon Point Road Eureka, CA.** Dorothy and her daughter, Laura Moore, garden 2 spacious acres of redwood understory.

Upon arrival you will be given directions to the remainder of the tour. Our Tour will culminate in a potluck picnic at **Tom and Maria Krennek's at 7430 Myrtle Ave, Eureka.** There may be some lovely heathers available for adoption for a small fee! Show Trophies may be ready for distribution, too.



# 42nd Annual Flower Show

## TROPHY AWARDS 2014

BEST TRUSS OF SHOW	TOM MARTIN
JUDGES' SPECIAL AWARD	DON WALLACE
PEOPLE'S CHOICE	GEORGE & KATHY BURTCHE'TT
BEST FLORAL ARRANGEMENT	CAROL DUNNING
BEST PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAY	GEOFFREY MASAKI
BEST FRAGRANT RHODO. TRUSS	DON WALLACE
BEST PINK HYB. RHODO. TRUSS	DENIS & JULIE POTTER
BEST RED HY. TRUSS	MARGARET & LEON ZLATKOFF
BEST YELLOW RHODO. TRUSS	DON WALLACE
BEST WHITE HY. RHODO. TRUSS	LARRY & ANN WIELAND
BEST LAV. HYBRID TRUSS	DENNIS & VALARIE McKIVER
BEST DWARF RHODO. TRUSS	BRUCE & NELDA PALMER
BEST SPECIES TRUSS	DOROTHY DILLING
BEST MADDENII TRUSS	GEORGE & KATHY BURTCHE'TT
BEST AZALEA SPRAY	CAROL DUNNING
BEST HYBRID RHODO. SPRAY	DEE SPENCER
BEST RHODODENDRON PLANT	HEATHER PETERSON
BEST AZALEA PLANT	DENNIS & VALARIE McKIVER
BEST BICOLOR TRUSS	TOM MARTIN





Photos of the 2014 Flower Show  
by Tom and Mary Marking, Show  
Chairs



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

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.

## Future Programs

May 22, 2014  
June 1, 2014  
July and August  
**September 18, 2014**

Sept. 26-28, 2014  
October 23, 2014

*Programs and dates are subject to change....as is the weather forecast*

Mini Show and Potluck  
Member Garden Tour and Potluck Picnic  
Weed and Water!  
***This is a date Change! Bruce Palmer, native plants of Hawaii, Potluck Luau, Hawaiian shirt contest***  
Western Regional Conference, Everett, WA  
To Be Announced

*Hail, bounteous May, that dost inspire  
Mirth and youth and warm desire!  
Woods and groves are of thy dressing,  
Hill and dale doth boast thy blessing.  
-John Milton (1608-74)*



## Election of Officers Will Be Held During the May 22nd Meeting

***Nominations May be Made From the Floor***

**Nominations for Eureka Chapter Officers and Board Members**

**September 2014 to June 2015**

President, Jerry Reynolds  
Vice President, Pat Chaney  
Secretary, Gail Ledbetter  
Treasurer, Tim Walsh  
Director at Large, Nelda Palmer  
Newsletter Editor, June Walsh

Publicity, Ellie Gayner  
Past President, Bruce Palmer  
Programs, Don Wallace  
Membership, Max Abrahamsen  
Show Committee, Tom and Mary Marking

For board member contact information or if you are interested in attending a board meeting, call or email June Walsh 707-443-0604