

## AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

# Eureka Chapter

*The next meeting  
Thurs. September 27th, 7:00 pm  
Woman's Club  
1531 J Street  
Eureka, California*

*Pre-Meeting Potluck 6:00 PM  
Sue Hemmann and the Eureka Chapter  
will provide Chicken and Pork for  
the main dish, you bring the sides.  
Beverages will be provided.*



Eureka Chapter  
American Rhododendron Society

Rhododendrons  
in the Redwoods

## September 2018

## Walsh the Welshman visits Gardens of Wales and Germany

*The Eureka Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet on Thursday, **September 27, 2018** The meeting and program will be held at the Eureka Woman's Club 1531 J Street in Eureka. Our **Potluck** will begin at 6:00 P.M., the program will begin at 7:00 P.M. Bring your best potluck dishes to share, Sue Hemmann and the Chapter will provide main dishes of Chicken and Pork, all service-ware is provided: dishes, utensils, napkins, cups, coffee and tea...and, you may BYOB.*

Walsh is the 4th most common Irish surname, meaning "foreigner", literally "Welshman". In 1169, Norman mercenaries landed in Ireland at the invitation of Dermot MacMurragh the ousted King of Leinster, who had sought their help in regaining his kingdom. The Norman mercenaries included Welsh, Cornish and Cumbrian soldiers many of whom never left. The Normans never left either! (Malachy McCourt's [History of Ireland](#))

Timothy Patrick Walsh was born and raised a 4th generation Californian and Humboldt-er.

After attending University of Southern California Tim became a sheep boy on the Southern Humboldt ranch of his dad's long time friend. He thought his prospects of making a living as ranch-hand were poor so he became a real estate broker and finally settled in as a Stock Broker and Certified Financial Planner for more than 30 years.

Tim had an epiphany in Hendricks Park Garden in Eugene, OR in the '80s when his *nose* discovered *Rhododendron* 'Loderi King George', he had no idea there were scented rhododendrons. Before that he had grown up with the thousands of *Rhododendron* 'Countess of Derby' which in Eureka were planted by Cottage



Gardens for the cut flower trade and sold as R. 'Eureka Maid'. As a little boy he would break off branches of the pink flowers and carry them up the street to sell for candy money (his dad was a dentist).

Thus began a long relationship with the ARS, first as chapter President (an office he has reprised more than once), then treasurer, then Treasurer of ARS, and currently District 5 director where he sits on the Executive Board. He is thoroughly Rhodo-holic.

Tim and other Eureka Chapter ARS members have been instrumental in developing, selecting plants and caring for the Moss Family Temperate Woodland Garden at Humboldt Botanical Garden.

Tim is a Master Gardener and the 2007 recipient of the American Rhododendron Society Silver Medal.

**In May 2018 Tim and his wife June visited Northern Wales then attended the Bremen Germany ARS Convention he will be showing highlights of both areas through pictures and stories.**



## Plant of the Month

*By Don Wallace*

*Rhododendron* 'Patriot's Dream' is a hybrid between *R* 'Carmen' and *R de-gronianum* ssp. *Yakushimanum*. This is one of those new hybrids that we have been waiting for! Shiny, egg shaped leaves on a compact miniature rhododendron adds delight to the rock garden all year round. Then, in May the flowers open a rich red color, which is unusual for a miniature type rhododendrons. Excellent and rare. The parent hybrid *R* 'Carmen' is a very low growing red flowering cultivar, but is a bit fussy to grow. The added genetics of *R. de-gronianum* ssp. *yakushimanum* adds some hardiness and ease of

growing. This variety is one of the smallest growing rhododendron hybrids available.

## September is Membership Renewal time!

What a great time to *bring a new friend or family member* to a meeting and *get a free plant.\** If your friend or family *becomes a member, they too will get a free plant\*!*

*All new members get a free plant\*.*

***All Renewing Members get a  
FREE Companion plant\****

Members who prefer to use online-renewal may do so at  
<https://www.arsoffice.org/renewal/renew.asp>

You will need your ARS member ID# which is on your newsletter mailing label.

***\*Please let us know if you are bringing a guest so we will have enough free plants.***

Hospice of Humboldt has invited the Eureka Chapter to help create a garden to complement their new building. Eureka Chapter member Charles Cunningham is the project coordinator. The Chapter has been gathering donated rhododendrons and companion plants as well as planting materials to begin the project when the rains begin in October. If you would like to volunteer or if you have plants or materials to donate please contact Charles at:

[kccoulka@yahoo.com](mailto:kccoulka@yahoo.com)

Or June at [RhodyHostel@suddenlink.net](mailto:RhodyHostel@suddenlink.net)



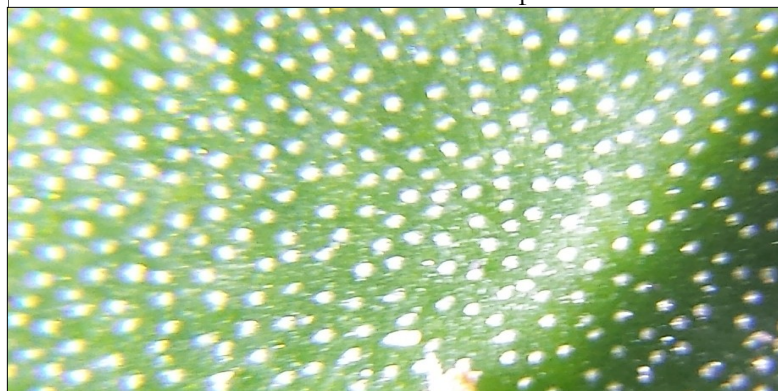


## WORD OF THE MONTH: XEROPHYTE

By Bruce Palmer

Welcome back to another exciting Rhododendron year. We have great programs, fellowship and events coming up. Our local membership continues to increase, so we must be doing something right.

It has been a dry summer in our area, despite the foggy days. Our smaller rhodies are suffering but the established ones are doing fine without extra irrigation. . How do they survive such lack of rainfall? Part of the answer lies with this month's word: **XEROPHYTE** (Greek, *xeros*, dry, and *phyton*, a plant). One way plants are grouped is by their need for water. Hydrophytes need to live near or in water, mesophytes have an "average" requirement for water and **xerophytes** are adapted to dry conditions. Adaptations to dryness usually conjure up visions of cacti, bromeliads and various succulents, but most rhododendrons have some structures, mostly in the leaves, that make them resistant to desiccation (from the Latin *desicare*, to dry up completely). Rhododendrons are not classed as **xerophytes**, but, once established, they do fairly well during our dry summers. Why? The ancestors of most of the hybrid rhodies in our yards grow on south-facing slopes in the Himalaya. They don't get a lot of water to begin with and much of what they do get tends to evaporate. To deal with this problem, many of our rhodies have leaf adaptations that help conserve water in the leaf and prevent evaporation. Thickened leaves, waxy coats on the surfaces, hairs, especially on the underside, and scales, plus multiple layers of upper epidermal cells all help the plant to conserve what water it is able to take in and prevent loss from the hot sunlight. Typically, we don't have to deal with



**MAGNIFIED WAX PARTICLES ON UPPER SURFACE OF LEAF – XEROPHYTIC PLANT FROM SOUTH AFRICA.**

drying problems in our area, but that isn't true this year. Our rhododendrons are using all their **xerophytic** defenses to survive until the rains bring us much needed soil moisture and our autumn crop of mushrooms.

The September 27 program by our own Tim Walsh, showing us what most of us missed by not going to the annual spring convention in Germany, where June received her well-deserved gold medal, should be interesting and educational. Bring your favorite dish to the potluck (it doesn't need to be xerophytic), renew your membership and enjoy the first evening of our Rhododendron year.

**The Board of Directors of the Eureka Chapter ARS proposes to revise the bylaws after 18 years to better reflect current practices. The revised bylaws will be posted on the chapter website and printed copies will be available at the September meeting. The changes will be voted on by the membership at the October meeting. Proposed changes are:**

- 1) Minor changes in formatting and wording have been made to improve readability, clarity and grammar.
- 2) The last revision was in 2000, with amendments in 2009. The 2009 amendments are incorporated into the proposed revision.
- 3) Article V, Section A1 is revised to reflect current practice regarding officers. Amendment 1 from 2009 is incorporated here. The revision reads: "The elected officers of the Eureka Chapter shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President plus no fewer than four or more than ten Directors-at-Large."
- 4) Article V, Section B1 has two sentences added to incorporate the 2009 Amendment 2, as follows: "The board shall assign the duties of committee chairmanships as defined in Article V, Sections 7-13 among its membership as appropriate. A board member may hold more than one committee chairmanship but shall have one vote."
- 5) Article V, Sections 6-13 Defines committee chairmanships and duties differently and in greater detail than the 2000 bylaws to reflect current practices.
- 6) Article VII, Section A6 establishes a finance committee to oversee the chapter's finances. Article V, section B6 establishes that the Treasurer is automatically the chair of the Finance Committee.
- 7) Article IX, Dissolution, is added to clarify what happens if the chapter dissolves, as has happened with several other ARS chapters. The Bylaws and Policies of the Board of the American Rhododendron Society do not specify what should happen to remaining funds when a chapter dissolves. A cursory reading of the IRS code governing termination if 501(c)(3) organizations indicates that it is far simpler to give remaining funds to other 501(c)(3) organizations than to private individuals.

**A PDF copy of the By Laws can be found at [http://eurekarhody.org/files/Eureka\\_Chapter\\_Bylaws\\_2018-09-07.pdf](http://eurekarhody.org/files/Eureka_Chapter_Bylaws_2018-09-07.pdf)**

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Submissions from members are encouraged and  
should be sent to June Walsh, Newsletter Editor,  
by email [RhodyHostel@suddenlink.net](mailto:RhodyHostel@suddenlink.net)  
Membership information and applications are avail-  
able from Ellen Gill. [Htg1anderg@suddenlink.net](mailto:Htg1anderg@suddenlink.net)

Eureka Chapter is a member of the **Humboldt  
Botanical Gardens**, Eureka, CA and **The Rhodo-  
dendron Species Botanical**, Federal Way, WA.

Eureka Chapter is a chapter of the American Rho-  
dodendron Society a 501 (c) (3) charitable organi-  
zation.

[www.EurekaRhody.org](http://www.EurekaRhody.org)



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## Future Programs

September 27, 2018	Gardens of Northern Wales	Tim Walsh
October 25, 2018	ARS Convention Garden Tours Bremen, Germany	
November	Paths, Walls, Castles and Gardens Of Old Japan	Ted Kipping
December 6, 2018	No Meeting, Enjoy Thanksgiving with Family and Friends	
January 24, 2019	Holiday Potluck	
February 28, 2019	Japanese Azaleas in the Wild	Atsuko Gibson
March 28, 2019	Plant Exploring in China	Glen Jameison
April 25, 2019	Exploring Soils	James Cassiday
April 26, 27, 28, 2019	Gardens of Seattle	Don Wallace
May 23, 2019	Rhododendron Show and Sale	
June 2, 2019	Member's Mini Show, Let us See Your Bloomers	
	Members' Gardens Tour and Potluck Picnic	

**A friendship can weather most things and thrive in thin soil; but it needs a little mulch of letters and phone calls and small, silly presents every so often-just to save it from drying out completely".**

**Pam Brown**

## Eureka Chapter Officers and Board Members

For board member contact information or if you are interested in attending a board meeting which are held the first Wednesday of the month at 7PM, call or email June Walsh 707-443-0604

*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.*