

AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

Eureka Chapter

The next meeting
Thursday January 28, 7:00 p.m.
By ZOOM
See page 2 for details



Eureka Chapter
American Rhododendron Society

Rhododendrons
in the Redwoods

January 2021

From Yunnan to the Salween

*The Eureka Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet on Thursday, **January 28, 2021** via Zoom beginning at 6:55 P.M.* Glen Jamieson is the Editor of the Journal of the American Rhododendron Society which is the magazine members receive quarterly and a benefit of membership. This program will be via Zoom see page 2 for details on joining the meeting.

Dr. Glen Jamieson, will present a talk on his three-week exploration for rhododendrons led by Steve Hootman in western Yunnan, China, from Kuming to Lijiang, and then up the length of the Salween River (the Chinese river closest to Myanmar). This area has the most Chinese ethnic minorities and is extremely rich in plant life.

The presentation showcases the regions scenery, plants and peoples living there, and provides a snapshot of what this part of China used to be like, before the recent surge of Han tourists impacted the region.

Dr. Glen Jamieson has a B.Sc. in Agriculture from McGill University, and spent over 30 years as a research scientist with Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Now retired, he is a keen gardener who has established a large tropical rhododendron (Vireya) collection and has travelled extensively on botanical trips to Central America, South America, and Asia. He is a recipient of the Gold Medal award from the American Rhododendron Society, as well as the Bronze Medal award from Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society. He is the editor of both [JARS \(Journal of the American Rhododendron Society\)](#) and [Rhododendrons International](#).

Submitted photo



**COME ZOOM to FINLAND
WITH**

Dr Glen Jamieson

Topic: Rhododendrons From Yunnan to the Salween

Time: Thursday January 28, 2021 6:55 PM Pacific Time

You may join us as early as 6:30 to know that you have a good connection with the meeting, get settled in and have a chance to visit with other guests before the presentation.

The meeting will begin at 7:00 sharp, so please be sure to be joined in no later than 6:55 pm .

To Join The Zoom Meeting click this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/99120170578>

Meeting ID: 991 2017 0578

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,99120170578# US (San Jose)

By Phone Dial :

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 991 2017 0578

Links to this meeting and more are available at

www.EurekaRhody.org

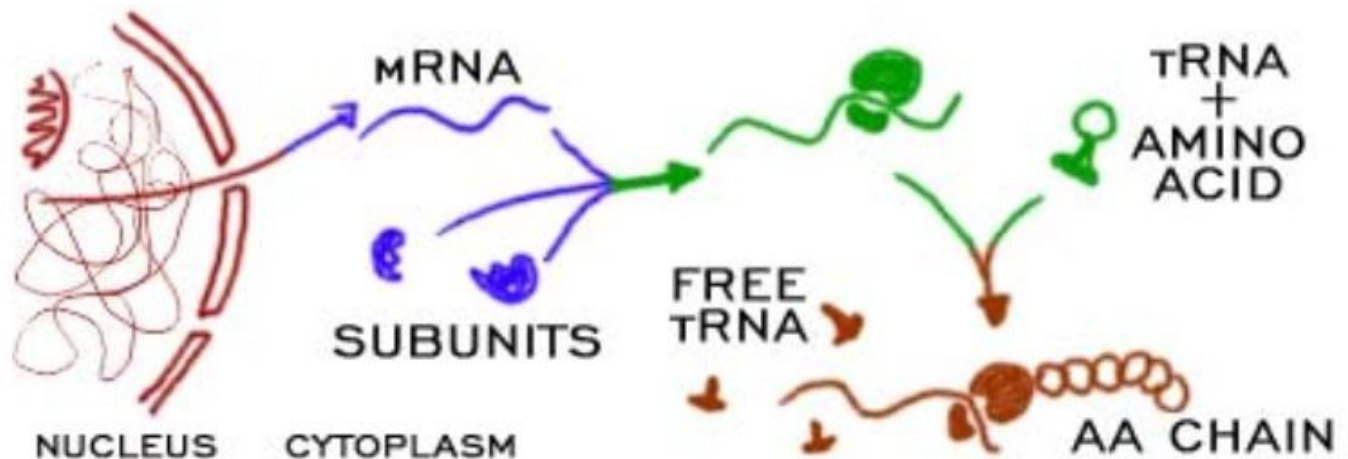
If you need a pre-meeting Zoom practice session call June 707-443-0604

Word of the Month– Vaccine

By Bruce Palmer

This month's word, VACCINE, is from the Latin *vaccinus*, from the cow. It is important to understand what the long-range implications of the newest "vaccines" might be for us and for our rhododendrons. The idea of vaccination dates to 1796 when Edward Jenner observed that milkmaids with cowpox didn't catch smallpox. He inoculated other people with cowpox and found that they were immune to smallpox (thus the meaning "from the cow"). The idea caught on and we still did it until smallpox was (probably) eradicated worldwide during the 1980s. We now have other ways to immunize people against various diseases but we still call the process vaccination.

Two of the Vaccines currently being released are based on a radically new concept: the use of mRNA. We will understand why this applies to our rhodies and other garden plants later, but first let's understand what this idea means. The building blocks of all cells in all living organisms are proteins or they are made by enzymes, which are proteins. DNA contains the genetic code for manufacturing all of the proteins in a cell and controls the construction of those proteins in a deceptively simple way. DNA makes and releases three basic types of RNA: Ribosomal RNA (rRNA), Transfer RNA (tRNA) and messenger RNA (mRNA). DNA makes and releases two of the RNAs constantly: rRNA, which resides in ribosomes, the factories where proteins are manufactured, and tRNA, the delivery trucks which bring the amino acids (raw materials) to the factories for protein construction. The third type of RNA, mRNA, contains the instructions used for manufacture of specific proteins and each type of mRNA is released only when its specific protein is required by the cell. A strip of mRNA for a certain protein is released into the cell and goes to any ribosome (factory). Amino acids are brought by tRNAs (delivery trucks) to the ribosome. The mRNA instructs the ribosome as to the order in which the amino acids are attached to each other and the specific protein is released.



The virus that causes COVID19 has a protein coat that has spikes on the outside. These spikes attach to cell membranes and allow the virus to get inside. Chinese biologist released the genetic code for the virus before the virus reached the United States and Pfizer and others jumped on it, isolated the mRNA code for the spike protein and have used that mRNA to make a vaccine. The idea was that if your cells could make enough spike protein, they would attach to the places on the cell where the virus would hitch to the cell membrane and prevent entry of the virus and/or that the artificial spike protein would cause your immune system to produce enough antibodies to overwhelm the spike proteins on the virus and disable it. It appears to have worked at more than a 90% level. Arguably, it makes you a genetically modified organism but it is worth it. We can hope to be free of this plague by summer. Current scientific journals indicate that other novel vaccine methods are being developed also.

How does this apply to rhodies? As we said above, all cells in all living organisms use the same process for protein manufacture. Now that it has become relatively easy (you can't do it at home) to decode the genomes of all cells, workers in medicine, agriculture and horticulture should be able eventually to control diseases, parasites and growth problems with no effect on other organisms. All it will take is money.



R. 'Copper Creek'

Plant of the Month By Don Wallace

Rhododendron 'Copper Creek' – Several years ago I was given seed to grow on by Jim Barlup, a well known hybridizer living in Bellevue, Washington. He and I exchanged ideas, cuttings, and seed over the years as many rhododendron hybridizers do. I grew the seed he gave me that was a cross of R. 'Amber Touch' x R. 'Nelda Peach'. One of the seedlings was quite pretty, so I nicknamed it 'Copper Creek'. The name has nothing to do with the color...just a name that popped into my head. I figured I would rename it when I registered it. Well, several years later, it still has that name, so it may be a permanent name. This plant has very nice shiny, dark green leaves and grows into a lush plant 4-5 ft tall and a bit wider in 10 years. The flowers are displayed in a full truss of pink, yellow and orange. It

flowers dependably every year. I believe anyone growing this one will be happy with it. Congratulations go out to Jim Barlup for creating such a worthwhile plant.

Share a Bloom!

An invitation from Margaret Cole

Do you have anything in bloom this month? Share one bloom in your Zoom square. Cut a bloom and just bring it in with you when you set up to Zoom at the meeting. In a vase or just holding it. The meeting starts at 6:30 to 7:00 for sometime for mini-social and sharing time. The presentation starts at 7 on January 28th . (see page 2 for details on joining Zoom)



Rhododendron arboreum 'Rubaiyat' from bud to full blossom



Remembering Leon Zlatkoff

Sadly on December 13, 2020 we lost our longtime member Leon Zlatkoff to cancer.

October 16, 1932 Leon was born in Chicago to Polish and Ukrainian immigrants.

Leon worked at the Post Office while attending Roosevelt University. He had a long career with the IRS in the Los Angeles area. Leon and his wife Margaret moved to Eureka from Southern California where they had lived many years in the Venice and Torrance areas.

The Zlatkoffs have lived in a lovely hillside home with extensive plantings and trails working their way to the lower areas of the property. Leon and Margaret have both

enjoyed working on their garden. Leon's great smile and always friendly demeanor will be missed by everyone that knew him. Leon loved the Chapter potluck gatherings.

Complete obituary can be viewed at https://eurekarhody.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Leon_Zlatkoff_Obituary.pdf

Above Leon and Margaret are shown with trophies they won for their rhododendron entries at a Spring Flower Show.

Left they are shown at a tufa pot work shop held by the Chapter.

Submitted by Bill Troiano



A note from the Volunteer Coordinator

Hello to all you wonderful Eureka Rhody Chapter member volunteers. It has been quite some time since you have heard from me. Due to the cancellation of all our Rhody functions, there has been no need for me to contact you. But that doesn't mean you have been forgotten. I have missed all of you! Over the years, your willingness to volunteer for our regularly scheduled events, and special projects, has been greatly appreciated. And sometime in 2021, I believe our events will resume, and your services will again be needed. In the meantime, please stay healthy and safe.

Take care, Diane Larkin

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

Eureka Chapter/American Rhododendron Society
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Eureka Chapter Newsletter is published monthly except during July, August and November.

Submissions from members are encouraged and should be sent to June Walsh, Newsletter Editor, by email RhodyHostel@suddenlink.net
Membership information and applications are available from Ellen Gill. Htglanderg@suddenlink.net

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

Eureka Chapter is a chapter of the American Rhododendron Society a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization.

www.EurekaRhody.org



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Future Programs

All in-person meetings and programs are suspended as we deal with the health concerns of Covid 19. We will be bringing you some online programming and live meetings using ZOOM and will keep you posted. Please check www.EurekaRhody.org for updates, informative articles, old newsletters and hopefully a program or two.

The Eureka Chapter Telephone-tree callers will be on the phone to keep you up-to-date with anything new. Tell them thank you for their calls!

ZOOM Programs

January 28, 2021	Glen Jamieson, Travels up the Salween River, Yunnan, China
February 25, 2021	Steve McCormick and John Stephens, Rhodos in Finland
March 25, 2021	Marc Colombel, our friend from France, Propagation by an Amateur for Amateurs
April 22, 2021	Atsuko Gibson, Four Seasons at the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden
May 27, 2021	Mini Show
June 6, 2021	Members' Gardens Tour and Bring-your-own-Picnic

All programs subject to change

'Good friends are like stars..... You don't always see them, but you know they are always there.'

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