

AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

Eureka Chapter

The next meeting, IN-PERSON!

Thursday September 28, 2023

Potluck at 6:00 P.M., Program at 7:00 P.M

Woman's Club, 1531 J Street, Eureka CA



Eureka Chapter
American Rhododendron Society

Rhododendrons
in the Redwoods

September 2023

Bonsai, An Ancient Art

*The Eureka Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet on Thursday, **September 28, 2023**. The meeting and program will be held at the Eureka Woman's Club, 1531 J Street in Eureka.*

This is a Potluck, (bring what you do best!) beginning at 6:00 P.M. Program at 7:00 P.M.

Kim Chamberlain will be our guest speaker; Kim has shown her Bonsai at our Rhododendron Show. Kim says, "Our family moved to Humboldt in 1969, when I was 5. This area offered a wide array of activities for a child; hunting, fishing, skiing and I showed Arabian horses.

As a beginner Bonsai enthusiast, I did what most people do, I put a small Juniper in my bathroom window and watched it die!

As a supporter of things local, I have shown my Bonsai in the Humboldt County Fair for over the last decade. This year I entered 16 trees in the Fair so the public could enjoy them as much as I do.

I became a member of the Humboldt Bonsai Society [https://](https://www.facebook.com/people/Humboldt-Bonsai-Society/)

www.facebook.com/people/Humboldt-Bonsai-Society/; here we bring our trees and share our knowledge. Our club once shared the Rhodie show at St Bernard's as a fund raiser for the club. Humboldt Bonsai Society found a new home at Mad River Gardens thanks to the Bonsai loving staff there. We meet on the first Sunday of the month (except December) from noon to 3pm. Our club is interested in reestablishing the combined show in the spring with the Eureka Chapter American Rhododendron Society. (See Kim's full Biographical info)



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.

Plant of the Month

Rhododendron 'Unique'

Variegated Form

By Don Wallace

We were given this variegated form of the *Rhododendron* 'Unique' by the Thompson Nursery in Oregon. Every leaf is dark-green with a bright silver-yellow edging. The plant grows slower than *R. 'Unique'*, but the flowers are much the same, white flushed pink with a bit of yellow in the throat. Tropical colors! The variegation makes the plant stand out in the landscape.



R. 'Unique' variegated form



Hydrangeas and Rhododendrons, Perfect Partners

People often ask, "What is the best time to visit Humboldt Botanical Garden?" And, of course, as curators of the Moss Family Temperate Woodland Garden, our answer is, "Every day!"

The Wild Weeders and Grateful Deadheaders, the volunteer team, work every Tuesday morning to care for and enhance the beauty of this special place. Throughout spring and into early summer we are deadheading the rhododendrons which have been blooming in succession since December beginning with *Rhododendron protistum* and into July and August with *Rhododendron auriculatum* and *Rhododendron serotinum*. Now the hydrangeas are taking center stage with colorful flowers and foliage. Hydrangeas will retain color in their big blowsy flowers through December, especially with *Hydrangea* 'Pia' and *Hydrangea* 'Hamburg'. We deadhead the hydrangeas as the blooms fade from purple to pink to tan.

The *Hydrangea aspera* 'Plum Passion' was first discovered in China and was brought back by plant explorer, Dan Hinkley. The flower is nice but the foliage is spectacular, large, deep-purple leaves on tall stems shine out from the back of Bed 7 under the *Acer griseum*, commonly called paper bark maple. Also, in Bed 7 are several *Hydrangea quercifolia*, the common name is oakleaf hydrangea. It is native to the southeastern United States, in woodland habitats. It has white panicle shaped flowers and rich fall leaf colors, giving multi-season interest.

Tim and June Walsh are curators of the Moss Family Temperate Woodland Garden. They are Life members of HBG and ARS.

"When one has tasted watermelon, he knows what the angels eat." - Mark Twain



September is Membership Renewal Time

Renew your membership and get a FREE plant

In this newsletter you will find a self-addressed STAMPED envelope to send your membership payment. Our Membership Chief is Ellen Gill, who will need your encouragement to complete her work on your behalf. Please make any contact, address, email or phone number corrections to the information on your enclosed renewal letter.

If you want to pay your membership dues by Credit or Debit card you may do so at www.arsoffice.org, you will need your member number, which is on your mailing label. Use your stamped envelope to send a nice note to someone...or return the envelope to us at the next meeting, we will reuse it next year.

Your renewal letter also lists some opportunities to make donations to projects that the Eureka Chapter and the American Rhododendron Society sponsor. Last year you and your fellow members made donations of over \$3,000 for **Moss Family Temperate Woodland Garden at Humboldt Botanical Garden**, the **Eureka Woman's Club**, the garden **Hospice of Humboldt**, the **Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden**, the **Jerry Reynolds Scholarship at Cal Poly Humboldt** and various **American Rhododendron Society** funds. Thank you, your donations are meaningful!

All renewing members will receive a free Rhodo or Azalea, first paid/first choice! Plants will be at Walsh's Rhody Hostel for your browsing pleasure. Plants will be available for purchase as well. Call or email for an appointment 707-498-2337, rhodyhostel@suddenlink.net.

*There are flowers enough in the summertime,
More flowers than I can remember—
But none with the purple, gold, and red
That dye the flowers of September!*

—Mary Howitt (1799–1888)

Photo: Rhody Hostel Vireya Rhododendron blooming in September



Eureka Chapter/American Rhododendron Society

2050 Irving Drive, Eureka CA 95503-7022

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. rhody4erg@gmail.com

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

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

www.EurekaRhody.org



Eureka Chapter
American Rhododendron Society

Rhododendrons
in the Redwoods

Future Programs

The Eureka Chapter is ready to welcome its members and guests back to the Eureka Woman's Club for in-person meetings. 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!

2023

September 28	Kim Chamberlain	Bonsai, An Ancient Art
October 26	To be Announced	
November	Enjoy Family and Friends	Thanksgiving
December 7	Don Wallace	Pruning, and Holiday Potluck

2024

January 25	Dr Benjamin Crain	Palau Orchid Conservation Project
February 22	Steve Hootman	Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden, Plant Hunting
March 28	Atsuko Gibson	Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden, Propagation
April 25	Mark Akimoff	Illahe Rare Plants, Chilean Andes Plant Hunting
May 23	Members' Mini Show	
June 2	Members' Garden Tour and Picnic	
July and August	Weed, Water, and Wander	
Sept 26	Molly Barker	Mendocino Coast Botanical Garden

All programs subject to change

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 all members are welcome, call or email June Walsh 707-443-0604