

AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

Eureka Chapter

September 2025

Meeting September 25, 2025

Potluck begins at 6:00 pm; Program begins at 7:00pm

Eureka Woman's Club, 1531 J Street, Eureka



Eureka Chapter
American Rhododendron Society

Rhododendrons
in the Redwoods

SEPTEMBER 2025

MIKE STEWART

The Eureka Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet on Thursday, September 25, 2025. 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 PM. Program at 7:00 PM.

The Eureka Chapter will host the justly **world famous** rhododendron expert and speaker, **Mike Stewart**. Mike and his wife **Maria** owned Dover Nursery in Sandy, Oregon until retirement and Maria's passing in 2023. Mike is an American Rhododendron Society **Past President** and a **Gold Medal** recipient (the highest award from the ARS) and a professional with excellent speaking skills and beautiful photography. Mike has also served as President of the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden and currently is very involved with the Van Veen Nursery which is owned by the Portland Chapter, ARS. Mike and Maria co-chaired many international conventions and western regional conferences for the ARS.



The title of Mike's program is ***Deciduous Azaleas of North America***. Through fantastic photography, and stories of people, places, and plants, you will learn about the much admired deciduous azaleas that began their time in the forests of North America before they became garden plants.

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.

September is Membership Renewal Time

*In this newsletter you will find a self-addressed **STAMPED** envelope in which 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 corrections to the information on your renewal letter.*

Your renewal letter also lists some opportunities to make donations to projects that Eureka Rhody and the American Rhododendron Society sponsor. Last year you and your fellow members made donations of nearly \$2,000 for the **Moss Family Temperate Woodland Garden at Humboldt Botanical Garden**, the **Eureka Woman's Club, Hospice of Humboldt garden project**, the **Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden**, and various **American Rhododendron Society** funds also benefited from your generosity. **Thank you!**

The Jerry Reynolds Journalism Scholarship for Cal Poly Humboldt has been redirected to the **Cal Poly Library 3D Herbarium project**.

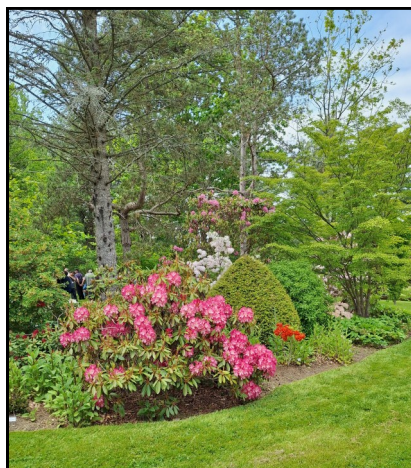
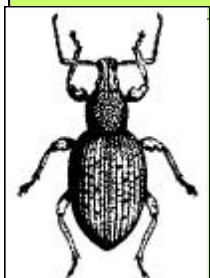


Plant of the Month, *Rhododendron* 'Papaya Baby'

This is a new hybrid I have named that is quite good, so I want someone in our chapter to get one. The plant stays small, has very nice, rounded leaves and has papaya-colored flowers. One of its parents is 'Seaview Sunset', so it will have the traits of holding its foliage longer, looking full and lush throughout the year. Blooming is in May for this one, and it will be 3 ft tall and wide in 10 years.

Don Wallace is owner of Singing Tree Gardens Nursery and the recipient of the American Rhododendron Society's Silver Medal

This is the
root of all
weevils!!!



Wolfville,
Nova Scotia
Canada

YES!

Rhododen-
drons grow
there!

June 2025

Tim Walsh Earns ARS Gold

Tim Walsh is a Life Member of the American Rhododendron Society, he served as ARS treasurer from 1998 to 2005, has been District 5 Director since 2009, and is a member of the ARS Executive committee. He regularly visits other chapters, especially in the Pacific Northwest, where he has given many presentations and shared his



rhododendron expertise. He has attended most ARS conferences and conventions over the past 35 years or so, where he has frequently been a speaker. Tim was a Founding Member of the Humboldt Botanical Garden, now a major western American garden, and through his contacts, has made the garden a repository for many rare and hard to grow rhododendrons and their companion plants.

The American Rhododendron Society is pleased to present its Gold Medal to Tim Walsh. June 7, 2025 Wolfville Halifax Nova Scotia, Canada.



Above photo; Tim receiving citation from Eureka Chapter President Steve Lemke

Photo to left, Tim with ARS President and dear friend Bill Meyers who made the official presentation at the Wolfville Nova Scotia Canada convention on June 7, 2025

Editor's note: This was a second trip to Nova Scotia to a Rhododendron Convention for Tim and me. We stayed at Acadia University in dormitory along with many firefighters taking training and a large church group who sang praises during the communal breakfast hall. We enjoyed renewing the friendships of our many Rhody friends and meeting new rhodo enthusiasts as we visited glorious gardens. Nova Scotia is spectacularly beautiful with water in every vista and welcoming smiles on many visages.

"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/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 at RhodyHostel@gmail.com

Membership information and applications are available from Ellen Gill at 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



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Future Programs

The Eureka Chapter meets at the Eureka Woman's Club, 1531 J Street, Eureka CA.

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!

<i>September 25, 2025</i>	<i>Mike Stewart</i>	<i>Deciduous Azaleas of North America</i>
<i>October 23, 2025</i>	<i>Gisele Schoniger</i>	<i>Soil Health</i>
<i>November</i>	<i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>	
<i>December 4, 2025</i>	<i>Holiday Potluck and Rhody 101</i>	
<i>Happy New Year</i>		
<i>January 22, 2026</i>	<i>Mike Bones</i>	<i>Bone-sai!!!!</i>
<i>February 26, 2026</i>	<i>Kathy Kosta</i>	<i>What is Killing my Plant?</i>
<i>March 26, 2026</i>	<i>Don Wallace</i>	
<i>April 23, 2026</i>	<i>Marie Antoine</i>	<i>What is that stuff in my Rhodo?</i>
<i>May 28, 2026</i>	<i>Member Mini-Show and Potluck</i>	
<i>June 7, 2026</i>	<i>Member Garden Tour and Potluck Picnic</i>	

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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 7 p.m. all members are welcome, call or email June Walsh 707-498-2337 RhodyHostel@gmail.com