

Tuesday—February 10th—7 PM

*** EASTGATE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP ***

15005 SE 38TH ST
BELLEVUE, WA

FREE DOOR PRIZE and raffle of Rhododendrons.

Chapter Officers:

President: Don Smart 425-333-6178

Vice Pres: Randy Jones

Treasurer: Bob George 425-391-2366

Secretary: Dianna Davis

Directors: Charlene Jones (2009), David Sherbrook (2010), Bob McKinney (2010), David Doherty (2011)

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Newsletter Editor - Publisher: Don Smart

Websites: [http:// www.arscascade.org](http://www.arscascade.org)

Assistant Editor: Carolyn Smart

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

FEBRUARY PROGRAM—GERMANY WITH DENNIS BOTTEMILLER

This month we will be going to northern Germany with Dennis Bottemiller. In his own words:

“In July 2008 I was invited to go to the Bremen Rhododendron park in northern Germany to look at their conservatory they call Botanika. This conservatory was opened in 2003 as an educational display and science center focused around tender rhododendrons of the Himalaya and Indonesia.

The intent of my trip was to learn all I could prior to building our conservatory at RSBG so as Hartwig Schepker, the director of the garden said ‘You can learn from all the mistakes we made!’ I had four days of touring the building and all of the attendant facilities as well as instruction about soils, computer controlled buildings, water issues and everything else they could think of to tell me.

It was a great trip and a wonderful place and I will show pictures and tell about what they have done and some of the difficulties they have had.”

This should be a great program, I hope to see more of you there.

Editor

JANUARY—ELSIE WATON’S GARDEN AND HYBRIDS—JACK MORGAN

We had a treat last month. Jack shared many of his beautiful pictures from Elsie Watson’s garden with us. There were pictures of Elsie’s hybrids, the parent plants in most cases. There were beautiful images of other hybridizer’s plants that Elsie loved and used in programs. And there were many that no longer have labels and Jack wanted help identifying. It sounds like this spring would be a good time to visit the garden and wander around with Jack and help him out.

Editor

TREAT TIME!

Many thanks to Elaine and David Sherbrooke for the delicious homemade lemon bars at the January meeting. Hosts in February will be Coleen and Bob George.

We need volunteers for the March, April, and May, too.

Coleen George—The Sunshine Lady

PLANTS FOR DOOR PRIZES AND RAFFLE FOR FEBRUARY

If you recall in December we were able to offer some special rhododendrons we obtained from Griswold Nursery in Kirkland. One of the plants that was in the raffle was R 'Anna Holm". This is mentioned in the latest ARS Journal we just

To become a member of the Cascade Chapter of the ARS, send dues to:
Bob George, 3030 E Beaver LK DR SE; SAMMAMISH, WA 98075 - 425-391-2366
\$35.00 Annual Membership fee or \$8.00 for Associate Membership if already a member of another ARS Chapter.

received in the mail on page 49. It turns out this plant is lightly scented and the name has been officially registered. This plant was one of the first in the marketplace. Congratulations to the Cascade chapter member who won this beautiful rhododendron at the December meeting!!!

For the month of February we are able to offer some more beautiful hybrids from Rogers Rhodies in Olympia, Washington.

They have a huge selection of rhododendrons and Japanese maples. You must check out their nursery when you can.

Here is this month's selection:

R. 'WHITE SWAN'----Extremely large white trusses. This is a "must have" white rhododendron. See page 149 Greer's guidebook for picture. Wow!!!

R. 'SEAVIEW SUNSET'----Frank Fujioka from Whidbey Island hybrid. Prolific bloomer with yellow/orange colors. Grows 2-3'. We saw a slide of this in Elsie Watson's amazing yard during the January meeting. Beautiful!! Make sure you sign up for a tour of Frank's garden before the ARS convention!!! There is a limited number of spaces available.

R. 'HORIZON MONARCH'----Dr Brockenbrough hybrid. Huge yellow flowers and is one of the highest rated rhododendrons available! We saw a picture of this in Elsie Watson's yard also. See Greer pg 169 for picture and other Dr Brockenbrough hybrids. This is a great plant!

R. 'KOMOSYPHOCALUX'----Try putting all that on a plant label. This is described as having purple flowers and grows to a large size.

#1 CAMEO X TROPICANA----Multicolor with orange in it. Grows to about 9'. Rogers Rhodies obtained the plant from the famous hybridizer Joe Davis who resided in Sumner. See page 169 of Greer's guidebook for Joe Davis hybrids.

R. 'MIKE DAVIS'----Joe Davis hybrid. Grows about 3' and is described as a multicolor. It has Lem's Cameo in it's parentage.

R. 'ORANGE MARMALADE'----Another Mr. Larson hybrid. Grows to about 3' and is also highly rated for its plant and bloom. This was raised by Joe Davis.

R. 'RUBY HART'---- Whitney hybrid. Dark red flowers and grows about 2'. This blooms late April-early May. This is a nice plant!

Don't miss the opportunity to be able to add some of these beautiful rhododendrons to your collection. We hope to see you at the February meeting!!!!

David Doherty, Cascade Board Member

Editor's Note: In the January newsletter there are 2 corrections to the plant list:

'Moonwax' was hybridized by Loyd Newcomb not Halfdan Lem.

2. Larson's first name was Hjalmar not Elmer.

Thanks to our District Director, Bill Stipe for these corrections.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS—SAVE THE RHODODENDRONS AT KENMORE

Many of you have visited the Kenmore Rhododendron Park in the past. It was a labor of love for many years for Warren Timmons when it was a King County Park. For several years now it has been a Kenmore City Park and in now going to be "renovated/redesigned".

Warren has been involved in keeping track of the plans of the new park and has also been involved along with a group of seniors who use the park building as their senior center working to save as many of the collection as possible.

Well, it's time to get to work. The city has set aside an area of the park where many of the rhododendrons need to be moved out of the way of development. Many of these great old rhodies will be moved back into the park when the new design is complete. But many will be given away to the volunteers who help in this effort. There are some very rare hybrids—many one of a kind.

Weather permitting, each Saturday, at least through March, will be volunteer days. The weather will dictate the course of action. Freezing weather will be time to inventory beginning about 10 AM. Transplanting will commence around 9 AM, bring shovels, wheelbarrows, tarps, and hand pruners or loppers. Snow cancels any work.

This would be a great way to a) get some exercise, b) help save some great rhododendrons, and c) maybe get your hands on something you would not find anywhere else. Rumor has it that the seniors will also be providing coffee and ???

I will post the plant list which has the locations and the distribution of some of the plants to our web site at www.arascascade.org. As you will see from the plant list that not all areas have a complete plant

inventory, yet. Call Warren for any additional details.

Don Smart, President with input from Warren Timmons III

CAN I SEND YOU OUR E-NEWSLETTER?

Many of you now receive this newsletter by email as an Adobe PDF file. The advantage in receiving your newsletter this way is that all photographs are in color—like all of the neat photos in this issue!. The advantage to the Chapter is no copying and mailing. If you would to change, please send me an email: donolyn@comcast.net.

Editor

ARS 2009 ANNUAL CONVENTION—89 DAYS!

The convention is getting closer. The registration forms are in your newest Journal. Please register early if you are interested in any of the tours as buses will be limited. Registration on-line by credit cards will be available by the time you get this ... hopefully.

You will soon be seeing sign-up sheets for volunteer opportunities—welcoming, registration, gift shop, truss show, plant sales, and more.

Don Smart, Convention Chairman

HAVE YOU EVER TRIED AIR LAYERING?

Many of us have propagated new rhododendrons from cuttings or from seeds. Some of you may have made new plants from ground layering—sometimes this happens all by itself with no help from you.

But, there is another method—air layering.

Air layering is done by selecting a branch that you want to use for your new plants and making 2 cuts around the branch through the cadmium layer. Remove the bark



between the cuts and apply some rooting hormone. Then make about a 2" ball of damp sphagnum moss around the cut. Wrap this in plastic and tie it off at both ends so it is air tight. Don't let direct sunlight shine on this, as it will "cook" it. Depending on the plant, it may root in 6 to 8 weeks and you can cut it off below the cut and plant it.

Now there are other tools available to accomplish



the same thing without using plastic wrap. One tool is called "Rooterpot" and is available from several gardening companies like Lee Valley Tools and Kinsman Garden Co.

Rooterpot is a split or "hinged" plastic pot that you can put around the branch and close it using clips. Assuming that you clean them well, I would assume that they could be reused. You can take a look at examples of using the Rooterpot at their web site at <http://www.rooterpot.com/ingles/index1.htm>.



One real advantage to layering over cuttings is that you will be able to have a much larger plant once it has roots, than a rooted cutting.

Editor—suggested by Bob George

GARDENS GALORE

I spend a lot of time on the computer and one of the services I've subscribed to is Google Alerts. It sends me email whenever new or revised websites have certain words on the page. I get alerts for "rhododendron", "rhododendrons", and "American Rhododendron Society".

It's amazing how many alerts there are some days. Everything from weeding our *R. ponticum* in Great Britain to people hiking the mountains of the SE US, to an auto accident on Rhododendron St in Po-dunk, OR. Oh, and the Washington State Ferry Rhododendron has been taken off of the Point Defiance to Vashon Island route.

But sometimes there are some great articles about local events and gardens.

From the January 15th edition of the Seattle Times—http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/outdoors/2008628599_nwwgoodideas150.html—is a great article on Seattle and Tacoma winter gardens and trails.

From the January 8th edition—http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/outdoors/2008600226_nwwgardens081.html—an article about Art Kruckeberg and the Kruckeberg Botanic Garden in Shoreline. This looks like a great place to visit this spring!

Don Smart, President

American Rhododendron Society
 Cascade Chapter
 Donald Smart
 1618 290th Ave NE
 Carnation, WA 98014

FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**Happy Valentine's Day
 Please come to our meetings.**

******* DOLLAR TABLE *******
**Support your chapter--buy a plant or
 bring a plant or do both!**

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 David Doherty, Warren Timmons III (Past President)

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Able Assistant: Carolyn Smart

BOARD MEETINGS:

Board Meetings are usually held on the **Monday following our Chapter Meeting** at Bob and Coleen George's house. Any member is welcome at the Board Meeting. If you have an idea or agenda item that you believe the Board should consider, please call Don Smart 425-333-6178 . Or just come and see what goes on behind the scenes.

CASCADE CHAPTER 2007-2008 CALENDAR

YEAR MONTH - DAY EVENT

2009	Feb 10	Cascade Chapter meeting—Dennis Bottemiller—Bremen, Germany Rhododendron Park
2009	Mar 10	Cascade meeting—TBA
2009	Mar 14-15	Meerkerk Spring Opening Plant Sale
2009	Apr 4-5	Rhododendron Species Foundation Spring Plant Sale
2009	Apr 14	Cascade meeting—TBA
2009	Apr 29—May 3	ARS 2009 Spring Convention—Holiday Inn Downtown—Everett, WA
2009	May 9	WA Native Plant Society Spring Plant Sale—Bellevue Botanical Garden
2009	May 12	Cascade meeting—TBA
2009	Jun 10 (Wednesday)	Cascade Annual Meeting and Potluck—Bellevue Botanical Garden