

>>> **Sunday, January 11th, 2 PM** <<<  
\*\*\*\*\* **First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue** \*\*\*\*\*  
**Room UC-105 1717 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA**

Please note that the **Seahawks** play on **Saturday evening at 5:15PM**

**FREE DOOR PRIZE and raffle of Rhododendrons.**

**Chapter Officers:**

**President:** Dianna Davis

**Vice Pres:** Paul Safstrom

**Treasurer:** Don Smart 425-333-6178

**Secretary:** David Sherbrooke

**Directors:** Warren Timmons III (2014), David Hughes (2015), Alan Sears (2016)

**Past President:** Doug Crane 425-455-2896

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

**Newsletter Editor/Publisher:** Don Smart

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

**JANUARY PROGRAM—DENNIS BOTTEMILLER—GARDENS AND NURSERIES OF NORTHER EUROPE**

Germany's Oktoberfest is over, and so are the many Christmas Markets, but we can visit Germany with **Dennis Bottemiller**. Dennis is the Nursery manager and Head propagator for the RSBG, as we all know. He traveled to Germany last spring to visit some of that country's best gardens. He did 23 Gardens and 1 museum in 11 days and 2880 km (or 1800 miles).

A group of 20 ARS members were able to visit gardens from large public gardens such as the Bremen Rhododendron Park to small private gardens on a regular city lot. They boarded a brand new private bus in Hamburg and immediately began an intense whirlwind tour beginning with the exhibition Rhodo 2014 in Westerstede Germany which is put on only every four years.

Northern Germany and Denmark seem to be the epicenter for rhododendron growing in Europe and examples of fine gardens were everywhere. Dennis hopes to convey the charm of the old country and the way they embrace gar-

dening with plants of our favorite genus! Come and join us for a travel log of that part of Germany many of us have never seen.

*Editor*

**DECEMBER'S HOLIDAY PARTY WITH SEATTLE—A GREAT SUCCESS**

For those of you who couldn't make the joint Cascade—Seattle holiday party, you missed a great time of fellowship and food—lots of food. Our carpooling plan worked good and Cascade had 16 members attend. Steve Hootman gave a talk at the end of the dinner about his first trip to New Zealand where he was a speaker at the 70th Jubilee International Rhododendron Conference. He visited many gardens and then just took us on a wandering trip around both the North and South islands with great scenery and gorgeous mountains.

Both Cascade's president, Dianna Davis and Seattle's president, Diane Thompson asked for a show of hands of who would like to see the Cascade and Seattle Chapters do more "joint meetings" in the future—maybe even alternate meetings between Seattle and Belle-

To become a member of the **Cascade Chapter of the ARS**, send dues to:  
Don Smart, 1618-290th Ave. N. E., Carnation, Wa., 98014 - 425-333-6178  
\$40.00 Annual Membership fee or \$10.00 for Associate Membership if already a member of another ARS Chapter.

vue. It appeared that there was a majority response to that. So, hopefully our 2 boards will work out future details.

*Editor*

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

HAPPY NEW YEAR MY DEAR FRIENDS and my first announcement is "GO HAWKS"



I haven't been this excited about teams sports since the Seattle SuperSonics won the NBA World Championship Series in 1979 (and no, I wasn't 3 years old).

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday with family and friends and didn't eat too much fruit-cake or drink too much spiked eggnog.

So, the "combined" December Cascade/Seattle Chapter Holiday Dinner was really wonderful; as usual Steve Hootman was a hoot...get it, hootman, hoot...ok, I've been on vacation for 10 days so am just readjusting to "normal" work life again—hey, I could really dig retirement stuff, that is if I didn't have a 16 year old son, meaning I won't be retiring until I'm 70...yes, group sigh is in order...oh well...seriously though about the December meeting, truth be told, I think the Cascades almost outnumbered the Seattle-ites, but maybe not quite!...wooo hooo!

We've got 2015 just around the corner and we're looking forward to spending time together, learning from each other, and listening to great speakers. We may be doing more "combined" meetings with Seattle...we'll see, but we want your input!

Our next meeting will be January 11 @ 2pm with the **Board meeting** @ 1pm (everybody's welcome to come to that as well...we'd love to have you!). Dennis Bottemiller will be doing a presentation on the Gardens of Northern Europe, so you won't want to miss it.

So, I'll close for



now, I think my Christmas tree is listing, dropping needles, and asking to be taken outside. Promise me you'll be at the January meeting, it won't be the same without you!

All my best to you AND Rhodys Rock! (oh yeah!)

*Dianna Davis, President*

[c2nd2@yahoo.com](mailto:c2nd2@yahoo.com) (home)

[dldavis@evergreenhealth.org](mailto:dldavis@evergreenhealth.org) (work)

### TREAT TIME

Thanks to those who came to the December party and brought food.

This month we'll be treated by Jody Safstrom and Elaine Sherbrooke. Thanks to all of you who have volunteered for future months.

*Carolyn Smart*

### DID YOU GET KISSED UNDER THE MISTLETOE THIS YEAR?



I get email updates from the California Pest

Control Group mainly because of updates on Sudden Oak Death (SOD). This month I got an interesting one about mistletoe, a pest. So, what is mistletoe and where does it come from? Why is it a pest?

"Two types of native mistletoes are found in North America - leafy mistletoe (genus *Phoradendron*) and dwarf mistletoe (genus *Arceuthobium*). One of the most common leafy mistletoes in California is the oak mistletoe (*Phoradendron villosum*), which is popular during the holiday season. It has leathery leaves, grows in clumps, and is spread via birds excreting seeds onto branches (roughly translated from the original Anglo-Saxon, "mistletoe" means "dung on a twig"). Able to make its own food through photosynthesis, it only relies on its host plant for water and mineral nutrients. The relatively large plants (usually more than 6 in long) are easy to identify in winter after tree leaf drop occurs. In contrast, dwarf mistletoe prefers conifers. Its stems are just ½ - 5 in.



*Mistletoe on White Oak in Oregon*

long and greenish-yellow, olive, or brown in color. With limited ability to photosynthesize, this parasitic plant draws most of its water and food from its host, making it much more damaging to the tree and leaving it more susceptible to insects and diseases.

As dwarf mistletoe is difficult to see in the forest, it is best identified by looking for witches' brooms, or proliferations of conifer branches, which are caused by a mistletoe hormone that encourages tree growth near the mistletoe. Dwarf mistletoe is spread when the oblong-shaped fruit housing the seed explodes from pressure, shooting the seed and a sticky liquid ("viscin") to its landing location. Most seeds land within 20 ft. of the explosion; however, some have been found to travel as far as 50 ft.

At first glance, it may seem that these native plants have little benefit; however, they do provide food for birds and small animals, and witches' brooms are often used for nesting. For more fun mistletoe-related myths and lore, go to [Mistletoe Lore](#), [Christmas Legend and Lore: The Meaning of Mistletoe](#), and [Myths and Lore of Mistletoe](#)."

So, wow knew?  
*Editor*

### LAST CHANCE FOR RENEWALS

This is about your last chance for getting your ARS and Cascade Chapter renewals sent to me and still having a chance to not miss your Winter ARS Journal.

Last year we had 47 Full and Associate members, but so far only 34 of you have renewed—thank you very much—2 of you have told me they will no be renewing, and I have contacted the remaining 11 and talked or left messages, but not had any additional renewals.

Please, PLEASE stay with our little group. We dropped 7 members last year and I hate to see this year be worse. This is problem across the whole ARS and we have spent many Board meeting hours discussing what can be done.

I and your Cascade Board really need to know why you may not want to continue and any ideas that will help us.

I hate to beg, but maybe I'll have to.  
*Don Smart, Treasurer*

### 2015 ARS SPRING CONVENTION—MAY 6-10TH—SIDNEY, BC

I sure hope you are considering going to the ARS Convention in May. They have a line-up of world renowned speakers and lots of tours to great gardens. There is also a 4 day post convention tour that includes lodging for one night at Painter's Lodge in Campbell River, and 2 night lodging in Tofino on the northwest coast of Vancouver Island. This includes a tour of Ken Gibson's Hilltop Rhododendron Garden.

The website - <http://2015rhodo.ca/> - includes the list of speakers and tours and also a printable registration form and a link to on-line registration via credit card.

If you haven't been to a Convention, or haven't been for a while, this should be a must on your calendar.

*Editor*

**BOARD MEETING— 1 PM Sunday, January 11th** before the 2 PM meeting. Please be there.

Please don't forget about the ARS Store when ordering just about anything on-line.



ARSStore.org

Where every purchase benefits the American Rhododendron Society

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

# FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



*Don't forget to RENEW your  
membership, please.*

**Chapter Officers:**

President: Dianna Davis  
Vice-President: Paul Safstrom  
Treasurer: Don Smart 425-333-6178  
Secretary: David Sherbrooke  
**Directors:** Warren Timmons III, David Hughes, Alan Sears  
**Past President:** Doug Crane  
**Newsletter Editor - Publisher:** Don Smart 425-333-6178  
or donolyn@comcast.net  
**Assistant Editor:** Carolyn Smart

**Board Meetings**

**The January Board meeting will be held at 1 PM at the church just prior to our regular meeting.** If you have subjects or suggestions you'd like discussed, please let one of us know. Or, better yet, come and join us as Board meetings are open to all members.

**CASCADE CHAPTER 2013—2014 CALENDAR**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>MONTH</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
2015	January	11	Cascade Chapter meeting at <b>2PM</b> —Dennis Bottemiller—Gardens of Northern Europe—Spring 2014 Also <b>1PM Board meeting</b>
2015	February	8	Cascade Chapter meeting at <b>2PM</b> —Program TBA
2015	May	6-10	ARS Convention—Sidney, BC, Canada