

**>>> Tuesday, May 12th at 7PM <<<**  
**\*\*\*\*\* First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue \*\*\*\*\***  
**Room UC-105 1717 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA**  
**FREE DOOR PRIZE and raffle of Rhododendrons.**

**Join us for dinner at the Bellevue Square Red Robin at 5:15**

**Chapter Officers:**

**President:** Dianna Davis

**Vice Pres:** Paul Safstrom

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

**Secretary:** David Sherbrooke

**Directors:** Warren Timmons III (2017), 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)

**Assistant Editor:** Carolyn Smart



April 2015 Cascade “Rhode” Trip at Doug and Donna Keough’s “Keyhole Garden”

**MAY PROGRAM STRUT YOUR STUFF**

This is the time to show us your gardens in pictures, trusses, photos, etc. We’re going to assume that if you have **recent** pictures they will be digital or printed. We will not have a “slide projector” available. We will have a PC and projector, so bring what you have on a flash drive or CD, or even video on a DVD and you will be a star!

Please join us for your fun program. En-

joy refreshments, some special plants for the door prize and raffle, and getting together with friends.

WE have some special plants this month donated by Bonnie Johnson, so bring some bucks—or Washingtons, Lincolns, or even Hamiltons!! Anyone have a bill with Woodrow Wilson on it???

Also, for more fun, come meet us for dinner at the Bellevue Square Red Robin at 5:15.

*Editor*

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.

**APRIL PROGRAM—MEERKERK GARDENS  
UPDATE—SUSIE REYNOLDS**

Last month **Susie Reynolds** gave us a great show on what has been happening over the past couple of years at the garden. Susie was full of enthusiasm for the Garden's future. She talked about all of the different things currently going on for gardeners, non-gardeners, and fairy loving kids. Check out their website for the schedule of activities. They can also use more volunteers—especially “grateful dead-headers”. They have a great selection of plants in their nursery, too. For a catalog of their nursery stock, go to: [www.meerkerkgardens.org/%20Catalog\\_12.pdf](http://www.meerkerkgardens.org/%20Catalog_12.pdf)

*Editor*



*Mrs. G. W. Leak—Photo: Paul Safstrom*

**PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Hey Everybody...by now ALL of us have something blooming from the rhododendron family! Please take some photos or bring the real thing to our May Chapter meeting devoted to “SHOW & TELL”.

Our April meeting was so kewl when Susie Reynolds, Garden & Nursery Manager from Meerkerk Garden, gave us an update on their most current happenings. We SO need to do a RHODE trip there!

So, the 2nd annual “RHODE SHOW” was April 25 where several of us went to Rhody Ridge and then to the Doug and Donna Keough's home; Doug is the current President of the Pilchuck Chapter. Rhody Ridge was so beautiful and kudos to Richard Fairfield and all the volunteers who have been the shep-

herds to return this space back to it's state of majesty!

Ok, then there was the Keough estate...I honestly could not believe my eyes...their home and gardens are truly “out of this world” with over 1,000 rhododendrons on five acres...**BUT WAIT THERE'S MORE!**....at every turn there were fossils, polished rocks & agates, Oso polished jade, a Koi Pond, out-buildings for entertaining, sitting benches built into cedar trees, and a myriad of whimsical items that surprise and delight at every turn. I so want to go to their house every week to see what glorious plant next comes into bloom. Suffice to say, a good time was had by all. This will definitely be a repeat visit in the 2016 RHODE SHOW.

We've been in conversation with the Seattle Chapter and will be attending their December holiday function and perhaps even rotate back and forth month-to-month with them...but stay tuned as we work out the details. So, I'll close for now, since I'm sure I should get out and feed my chickens, collect eggs, or plant a rhody or two, or...well you get the idea. See you on May 12th for “SHOW & TELL”!

My best to you AND Rhodys Rock!

*Dianna Davis, President*

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*R. quinquefolium (7' tall) - Photo: Don Smart*

**TREAT TIME**

Thanks to **Millie English** and **Carolyn Smart** for last month's treats.

This month we'll be hosted by the **Dianna Davis** and **Elaine Sherbrooke**. It is much appreciated.



*Rosalie Hall—Photo: Don Smart*

*R. gymnocarpum—Photo: Bob George*

In June you all will be on the hook for goodies as we will have our annual meeting and potluck at the Bellevue Botanical Garden’s new facility.

*Editor*

**PLANT SALES OPPORTUNITIES**

I understand Dave and Elaine Sherbrooke have a new vehicle and had to get it just in time for the RSBG sale, to fill it up!

Consider a trip to Waldport, OR the weekend after Mother’s Day, to take in the Thompson Rhododendron Nursery’s annual spring sale. You won’t be disappointed!

Don’t forget the nursery at Meerkerk, either.  
*Don Smart, Editor*

**ANNUAL MEETING—WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10TH**

In June we will have our annual business meeting. One of the items we always do is elect officers for the following year. But, since we changed the by-laws last year to make terms 2 years, we can put off the begging and pleading for volunteers until next year.

The Board is proposing another change to the by-laws this year, and since it has to be announced twice before the vote in June, this is the first.

**ARTICLE V – GOVERNING BODY**

*The Governing Body of the Chapter shall consist of the elected officers, the immediate past president, and ~~three~~ (Proposed change: a minimum of **two**) directors. (Proposed addition: **Officers and directors must be current members (full or associate) of***

**the chapter.**

*Editor*

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Sorticulture is coming up on June 12-14 in Everett and we do not have the volunteer staffing we need for our booth. We want to make this a District 2 sponsored booth. The function of the booth is to answer questions about rhododendrons, the ARS, and, to encourage those who are interested to look into joining a chapter in their area.

Needed are volunteers for Saturday, 6/13 and Sunday, 6/14 shifts. Please contact Richard Fairfield by email at [wineryduck@yahoo.com](mailto:wineryduck@yahoo.com) for more specific information.

Sorticulture is a fun, annual Garden and Arts event in Everett’s Legion Park. For more information: <https://www.everettwa.gov/823/Sorticulture-Garden-Arts-Festival>

*Richard Fairfield - District 2 Director*

**HIMALAYAN BLUE POPPY DAY—RSBG**

Plan on a day to go and see a meadow of over 500 blue poppies (*Meconopsis betonicifolia*). The day is May 16th, but they bloom for a while.

*Editor*

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**



*Send pictures of your spring flowers for the next NEWSLETTER!  
Please?*

### **Chapter Meeting Attendance?**

There is an alarming trend in our chapter meetings. The attendance many times has been only the Board members and their spouses ... and Millie, bless her heart.

#### **Why?**

Even our attempt at afternoon meetings during the winter has not really improved attendance.

Your Board really needs your input. **Please!**

### **Board Meetings**

**There will be no May Board meeting.**

*The next Board meeting will be sometime in August to start planning for next year's activities, starting with our BBQ/Picnic in September.*

## **CASCADE CHAPTER 2013—2014 CALENDAR**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>MONTH</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
2015	May	6-10	ARS Convention—Sidney, BC, Canada
2015	May	12	Cascade Chapter meeting at <b>7PM</b> —Bring pictures and trusses—"Show and Tell"
2015	May	15-17	Thompson Nursery Sale—Waldport, Oregon
2015	June	10	Annual meeting and Potluck— <b>6 PM</b> —Bellevue Botanical Garden—Classroom 3
2015	May	16	RSBG—Federal Way—Himalayan Blue Poppy Day along with other activities
2015	June	12-14	Volunteers needed for Sorticulture—Everett's Legion Park (See page 3.)