



Pilchuck

Pollinator

Pilchuck Chapter ARS

Volume XVII No. 8 April 2009



April Meeting

Our April meeting will be held at the First Baptist Church, Annex building. The program will consist of a plant exchange and election of two board of director positions. Bring a plant or two to trade with someone. This is done much like the Christmas gift exchange. We did this last year and had a great time.

April Horticulture

By Jerry Rock

Spring is here! Check your plants for dieback and signs of new growth! Cut away dead or dying plant parts. If you haven't fertilized yet, do it now! Not all plants need fertilizer but those that are not up to par, i.e. not green enough or looking weak do. Bud formation is fertilizer dependent! Plant any plants left in pots now! Watch for drainage and proper wind and sun exposure. If you are not sure ask other members for their opinions!

Jerry's Wacky Synonym Quiz

Example: Hot pepper = Jalapeño

1—Highway 99; 2—Cornbread spread; 3—Finish to TGI_; 4—Star Trek, the last_;
5—Claps; 6—Blue Ribbon; 7—Italian infant; 8—Sunny weather; 9—Dark prestidigit-
ation; 10—She lost her sheep.

Extra credit—Sylvester's desire

Scores:

0 = normal brain, not a rhodoholics, yet!

1-2 = kindergarten grad

3-4 = elementary school grad

5-6 = high school grad

7-8 = college grad

9-10 = genius status

Extra credit + above = True rhodoholic!

If you want the answers, come to the April meeting! This is a great way to learn the names of rhododendrons.

Next Meeting:

- April 2nd

Annex Building at

First Baptist

81st & State Street

Marysville, WA

- Meet'n Greet: 7:00PM

- Meeting: 7:30PM

April Program:
Plant Exchange

Refreshments

Coffee & tea will be pro-
vided

Last name beginning
with L—S

Raffle

Thank you to those
who bring raffle items!

Thank you to those
who buy tickets!!

PILCHUCK CHAPTER - ARS

Meeting Minutes March 5, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Barbara Blankenship, and the first order of business was the nomination of Board Members for a two year term. Two members will be voted into office during the April meeting from the five members nominated. They are Shirley Rock, Dave Hammond, Jane Smith, Bruce Hubert, and Carolyn Hansen. Shirley Rock and Dave Hammond will finish their current term in office this summer.

Jerry Rock led us off on another Rhody quiz that only he could originate, with such questions as asking us the proper Rhododendron name of "Fruit and Dairy Dessert". And the answer is: **Cherry Cheesecake**. Afterwards, Jerry displayed the various plant labeling materials that are available at the Snohomish Nursery Supply House, plus other places. He recommends two labels on or by each plant for ID insurance. Unless you've got the memory of a 60GB computer, a Rhody without a ID tag is just a bush. Cora Zoberst showed a display of all sorts of perennial plants that can add color and variety to your garden. It's amazing the variety of plants that fit this description. Check with Cora if you have questions.

Shirley Rock gave us a Power Point preview of her "Membership Drive" presentation. The program included membership ideas from all over the world where an ARS Rhody Chapter exists. Shirley, our National Membership Committee Chairwoman, is preparing these materials in various formats for distribution to Chapters in need of educating prospective members in their areas. Remember to volunteer your help with the upcoming ARS Convention in April. See Dave Hammond. Wayne Lawson has submitted a \$15 registration fee towards our participation in the May 9th Plant and Garden Faire in Mount Vernon. Be ready to volunteer helping with the setup on Friday, May 8th. The meeting concluded with a successful raffle and auction, led by auctioneer Jerry Rock.

Respectfully submitted
Marie Lawson - Secretary

April Birthdays

Barbara Blankenship—Happy Birthday, Barb!

May Plant Sale

The annual Skagit County Master Gardener Plant Faire will be Saturday May 9, 2009 at Skagit County Fairgrounds at 1410 Virginia Street in Mount Vernon. This event is very well attended and has grown steadily through the years. We take care of all advertising and promotion for the Faire.

Since this venue will be new this year for all of us, please bear with me as to the details of set up. We plan to open the vendor gate at 7AM Saturday the day of the event. Once again we will also plan for set-up and display on Friday afternoon from 3-6pm. You do so at your own risk as we do not provide security. We will however know ahead of time if we are having someone on hand to monitor the site overnight. Due to the size of the venue we are anticipating having most of our vendors indoors. Some of our larger vendors may be adjacent to the building on the lawns. This site has good access for all most trucks. The booths are approximately 400 sq feet. Each vendor is responsible for adequately staffing their booth, collecting payment for their own merchandise sales and the security of their booth. It is important to bring enough change as well as your own canopies, display items, chairs, tables and the like. Master Gardeners use colored tags so please use only white tags to mark your merchandise. Master Gardeners will be on hand to lend support throughout the day.

Programs for 2009

If you have a topic that you think would interest the members, please let a board member know. We will do our best to meet your request. We have a potential plan for the year, and will always welcome your suggestions. We hope you enjoy the programs and learn something new. We want to have a little fun too!

April 2 – Plant exchange, election of two Board members

April 30 thru May 3– International Convention in Everett

May 7 – Picnic at the Rock's, install officers

May 9 - Plant sale at the Skagit County Fair Grounds, Mt. Vernon

June thru August– no meetings

Keep this page next to your calendar!

Convention Plant Sale Help Needed!

Dave Hammond needs help with plant clean up, plant loading and unloading. He needs help on April 18th cleaning, fertilizing, and tagging the rhododendron/pots at Dave's. April 25th is the day to load up the plants in the delivery truck. April 29th (early morning) we will unload the plants at the hotel. Dave also needs helpers to sell the plants during the convention. He will have a signup sheet at the April meeting. If you help at the convention you need to pay the registration fee.

Convention Truss Show

All chapters are invited to bring and display rhododendron trusses at the convention. More information will be available at the April meeting.

Photo Contest at the Convention

A photo contest will be displayed at the Convention. More information is available on the registration form regarding how to enter the contest.

Answers to Last Month's Quiz

1-Purple Passion; 2-Chocolate Romance; 3-Conestoga; 4-Ptarmigan; 5-R. auriculatum; 6-Cranberry Swirl; 7-Magenta Sky; 8-Cherry Cheesecake; 9-Pat Glein; 10-Golfer; Extra Credit-Dawn Chorus.

Date	Event	Comments
April 2	Chapter Meeting	First Baptist Church Annex Building
April 29-May 3	Intern't'l Convention	Holiday Inn, Everett, WA
May 7th	Chapter Picnic	Jerry & Shirley Rock's Gardens
May 9th	Plant Sale	Skagit County Fair Grounds
June–August	No Meetings	



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Be sure to visit our website....

www.rhododendron.info

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Secretary	Marie Lawson	(360) 659-9218
Board Member	David Hammond (1)	(360) 435-9206
Board Member	Doug Keough (2)	(360) 668-6444
Board Member	Fredrick Kirby (2)	(360) 435-9713
Board Member	Shirley Rock (1)	(360) 652-8908