



R & A News: May-June 2022

This is the Rhododendron and Azalea News, Volume 17, No. 2 being published for May and June of 2022. Please note that there was no March-April issue.

A key article in this issue is "Evergreen Azaleas" by Steve Henning. It has a very thorough discussion about these plants and many important hybrid groups. There are some shorter articles by Don Hyatt about his favorite deer resistant companion plants and a number of other items of interest. We hope you enjoy the video links.

We sincerely appreciate all the hard work that went into hosting the very successful 2022 ARS Convention in May. We can only imagine how difficult it was delaying the 75th Anniversary Convention for two years due to Covid, and then having to deal with the tragic loss of one of the original co-chairs, Harold Greer. We sincerely thank Mike Stewart and Steve McCormick who co-chaired the event and all who were involved. Well done!

We now take this opportunity to invite you to the ARS Fall

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Printed in Gettysburg, PA, in September 2022. It has also been
delayed two years. Also, don't forget the joint ARS / ASA
Convention that will be staged near Atlanta, GA, in April 2023.

Best wishes from the R & A News committee: Don Hyatt, Steve
Henning, Dave Banks, and Linda Derkach.

Photo Credits: Azaleas at the U.S. National Arboretum by Don Hyatt

Evergreen Azaleas *by Steve Henning*



Steve Henning offers a comprehensive discussion of
evergreen azaleas including selected species and details about
many popular hybrid groups. We encourage you to bookmark
this document for future reference.

Photo Credits: Glenn Dale Azaleas 'Glacier' and 'Delos' by Don Hyatt

[Evergreen Azaleas](#)

[Azalea Videos](#)

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Azaleas at the US National Arboretum



Azaleas: Louisiana State University Ag Center

Conventions!

2022 ARS Convention Recap

by Steve McCormick

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We extend a special "Thank You" to members of the 2022 ARS Convention Committee for a job well done. Co-chairs Mike Stewart and Steve McCormick were assisted by other committee members including Nancy Greer, Maria Stewart, and John Stephens. , as well as a hard working staff. Job well done!

Steve McCormick has prepared a lovely PowerPoint program that is a "Convention Recap." It includes images from the meeting and tours. It will bring back fond memories for attendees but is also a visual treat for anyone who was unable to attend. Click on the link below to download the file.

There were a number of awards presented at the meeting and we choose to highlight two prestigious Pioneer Achievement Awards in this issue. Those citations are below.

Photo Credits: Vista of Portland from the Japanese Garden by Don Hyatt

[Convention Recap](#)

Congratulations!
Pioneer Achievement Awards

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Peter Cox

"Peter Cox has had a long and distinguished career in the rhododendron world, being a specialist rhododendron nurseryman, a plant hunter and an accomplished horticultural writer. As a result, he is widely acknowledged both in the UK and abroad as one of the world's leading experts on rhododendrons. He has led or participated in many plant-hunting expeditions and plants grown from the seeds he has collected have been distributed to garden collections in over 20 countries. He is considered one of the world's most successful and skilled hybridizers of rhododendrons and alone or in conjunction with his father and son, has published 13 well-respected books on rhododendrons. In summary, the ARS is pleased to bestow its Pioneer Achievement Award on Peter Cox. Presented this 7th day of May 2022."

Photo Credits: Peter Cox in the Hobbie Garden by Don Hyatt

Glendoick Gardens History

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Donald L Craig, Ph.D.

"From the early 1950's, as a youthful research scientist with a large passion for rhododendrons and azaleas, Dr. Donald Craig made the most of his position and networks to realize a serious breeding and selections program - engaging others including George Swain and Captain Dick Steele in major roles - that would put the genus Rhododendron on the ornamental plant radar and into garden landscapes of eastern Canada. His recognition of the genetic diversity of the genus, his collegial nature, his position as an Agriculture Canada small fruit breeder and division head, and his skill as a communicator made him an early and key player in the introduction, advancement and use of the genus Rhododendron in the Atlantic region. A true collaborator, Don continued to share his love of the genus and his plant breeder's knowledge with others until his passing in 2011. The American Rhododendron Society, in recognition of his accomplishments, is pleased to bestow the Pioneer Achievement Award on Dr Donald L Craig this 7th day of May, 2022."

Photo Credits: 'Belfontaine' in Nova Scotia by Don Hyatt

Breeding Rhododendrons in Nova Scotia

**ARS Fall Eastern Regional
Gettysburg, PA - September 27-29**

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Please join us for the ARS Eastern Regional in historic Gettysburg, PA. The conference will be in the middle of the week from September 27-29, 2022, which will avoid weekend crowds. Hosted by the Mason-Dixon Chapter, there are tours are planned to the Gettysburg Battlefield Park as well as the lovely Rose Garden at Hershey Park. Check out the conference website for details and registration materials. Check our the videos, too.

Photo Credits: Guns and Roses by Don Hyatt

[ARS Fall Regional - Info & Registration](#)



Topography at Gettysburg

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Roses at the Hershey Gardens

2023 Joint ARS/ASA Convention

Atlanta, GA - April 19-23, 2023



Join us in Atlanta, GA, next spring for a Joint Convention of the Azalea Society of America and the American Rhododendron Society. The theme is "Georgia With Azaleas On My Mind" so you

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azaleas. Check out the link below for conference details.

Photo Credits: Azaleas by Don Hyatt

2023 ARS/ASA Joint Convention

Deer Resistant Companion Plants: *Daffodils!*



Don Hyatt discusses some favorite daffodil cultivars that he uses as companion plants in a rhododendron garden.

Photo Credits: Daffodil by Don Hyatt

Daffodils

Deer Resistant Companion Plants: *Peonies!*

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This article by Don Hyatt discusses using peonies as companion plants including herbaceous forms as well as tree peonies. They seem to be resistant to deer browsing. He also shares remembrances of a friend's garden that featured tree peonies, trillium, and other wildflowers.

Photo Credits: Tree Peony by Don Hyatt

[Peonies](#)

Pruning Rhododendrons *by Don Wallace*

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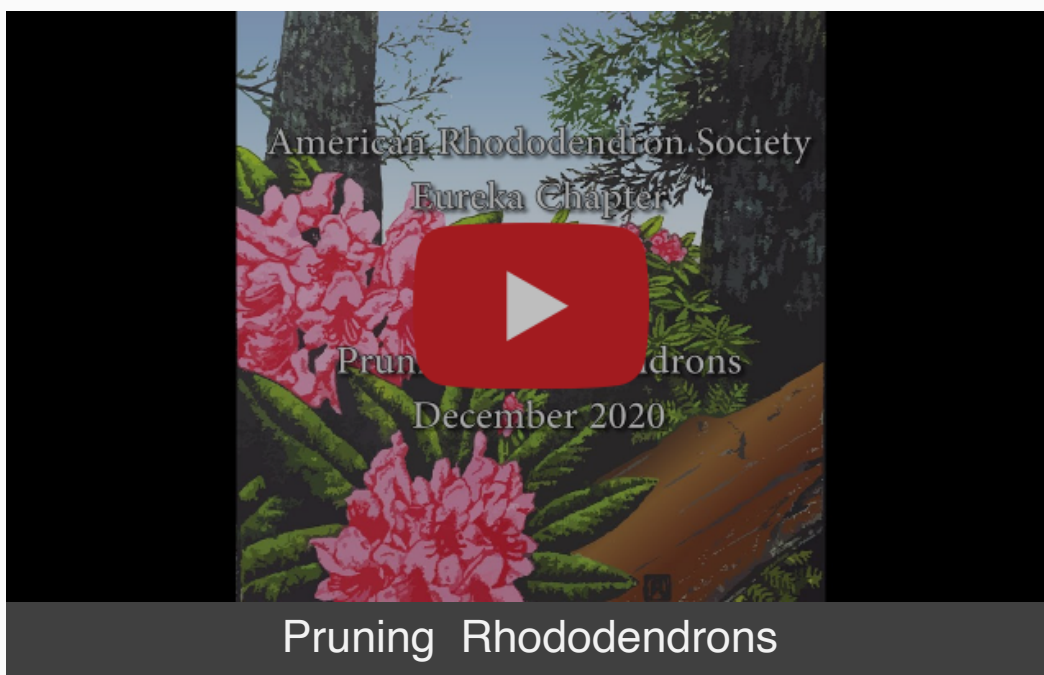
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This is a video from the Eureka Chapter ARS who taped the nurseryman Don Wallace of Singing Tree Nursery explaining how to prune rhododendrons.

Photo Credits: Pruners by Don Hyatt




Living with Biodiversity *by Doug Tallamay*

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The environment is in trouble and this article by Doug Tallamay stresses the need to live with nature rather than trying to control it.

Photo Credits: Don Hyatt

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The American Rhododendron Society website has much useful information. There are details about the organization, its activities, membership, articles on many topics including selected pieces from past journals and rhododendron culture, an interactive database with images and more. It has a members-only area where people can see full color digital versions of ARS Journals dating back to 2011.

[ARS](#)

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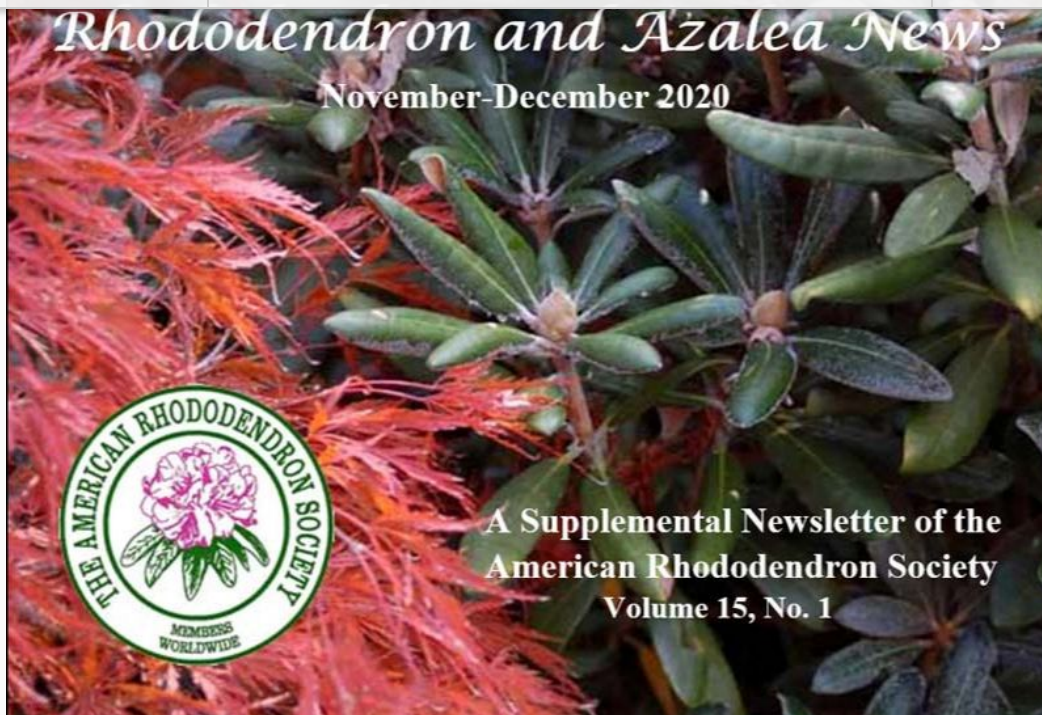



Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden

The Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden is a wonderful partner to the ARS. It is a nonprofit organization that maintains a beautiful garden in Federal Way, WA, and houses one of the largest collections of rhododendron species in the world.

RSBG

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[Archives](#)

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