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R & A News: November-December 2021

The past year has been a difficult one for many of us. As we transition into a new season with hopes of returning to more normal activities, may you find health, happiness, and comfort from the beauty in your garden.

Highlights in this issue include Steve Henning's article about rhododendrons that seem to tolerate difficult climate conditions. He also wrote an article on tropical Vireya rhododendrons. Thank you, Steve! Don Hyatt provides additional thoughts on Vireyes including a photo gallery of some plants he has admired. He also wrote an article about hardy fall flowering Camellias as companion plants and shared some thoughts on cleaning rhododendron seed.

There are some links to gardens and a reminder that registration for the 2022 ARS Convention is open. There is also a link to the ARS Seed Exchange that will open in January and some suggestions for charitable donations.

Henning, Dave Banks, and Linda Derkach.

Photo Credits: 'Bohlken's Snow Fire' by Don Hyatt

Sun, Shade, & Heat Tolerant Rhododendrons & Azaleas *by Steve Henning*



Steve Henning has made some suggestions about rhododendrons that appear to be tolerant to stressful environmental conditions like excess sun or shade, as well as plants that can take heat as well as cold.

Tolerant Rhododendrons

Vireya Rhododendrons by Steve Henning



Steve will introduce you to these diverse tropical rhododendrons that can often be found growing on trees. The plants often have brilliantly colored flowers. These plants can be grown outside in frost-free climates but make great greenhouse specimens or can be grown indoors as house plants if given special care.

Photo Credits: *Vireya R. aurigeranum* by Don Hyatt

Vireyas

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More Thoughts on Vireyas by Don Hyatt



This photo essay by Don Hyatt has a few more comments about tropical Vireyas including additional images of their brilliantly colored blossoms and diverse flower forms.

Photo Credits: Vireya 'John West' by Don Hyatt

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**Camellias: Companions for
Fall and Winter Bloom**
by Don Hyatt

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Camellias make wonderful companion plants in a rhododendron garden. They require basically the same growing conditions as most rhododendrons and azaleas but can provide flower color at times of the year when other shrubs are not in bloom. Don Hyatt's article focuses on some recently introduced fall blooming cultivars that also have improved winter hardiness.

Photo Credits: Fall flowering camellia 'Winter's Snowman' by Don Hyatt

Fall Blooming Camellias



Cleaning Seed and the ARS Seed Exchange



This is a reminder that the ARS Seed Exchange has been accepting seed donations and that their offerings will be made available to members in January. There may still be time to donate some seed to the exchange so we offer two links. The first one is to an article by Don Hyatt on how he cleans seed. The second link is to the ARS website with information about the Seed Exchange.

Photo Credits: Don Hyatt

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[RSS](#)[Cleaning Rhododendron Seed](#)[The ARS Seed Exchange](#)

In Praise of the Rhododendron *The Secret Garden of Richard Ziadie*

by Martin Schmalenberg



Steve Henning shares a reprint of an article by Martin Schmalenberg about a LeHigh Valley ARS member Richard Ziadie that appeared in a local magazine, the Summer 2021 Milford (PA) Journal.

Photo Credits: 'Gigi' by Don Hyatt

[Richard Ziadie's Secret Garden](#)

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The 2022 ARS Convention

May 4-8, 2022



The ARS Convention planned for next spring from May 4 through 8 will be held in Vancouver, WA / Portland, OR. Registration opened on December 1. Check out the convention website for details.

Photo Credits: Don Hyatt

[Convention Website](#)

Video Clips from Gardens on the Convention Tours



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Crystal Springs, Hendricks Rhododendron Park,
and the Cecil and Molly Smith Garden



Garden Time: Dick Cavender discusses Crystal Springs

In Memoriam Donations

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You might want to consider making a tax-exempt charitable contribution to memorialize a friend or loved one. We offer some suggestions that will assist the goals and mission of our society.

The first link below is to the ARS Website's Donation page. It has two recommendations: 1) the Endowment Fund where the money will be used to support diverse projects related to rhododendrons, and 2) the Research Foundation which can provide funding for scientific research.

The other link is to a specialized GoFundMe page in honor of Kathy Van Veen. Those funds are needed to support the Van Veen Heritage Garden on the nursery property in Portland she bequeathed to the ARS in her will.

Photo Credits: Don Hyatt

[ARS Donation Page](#)

[Van Veen Heritage Garden](#)

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The American Rhododendron Society

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.



The ARS Store

The ARS store has access to many interesting items people can purchase as well as programs to download. When you purchase items online from certain vendors, the ARS also gets a small commission. This will only happen if you link to them from the

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searches at the ARS Store.

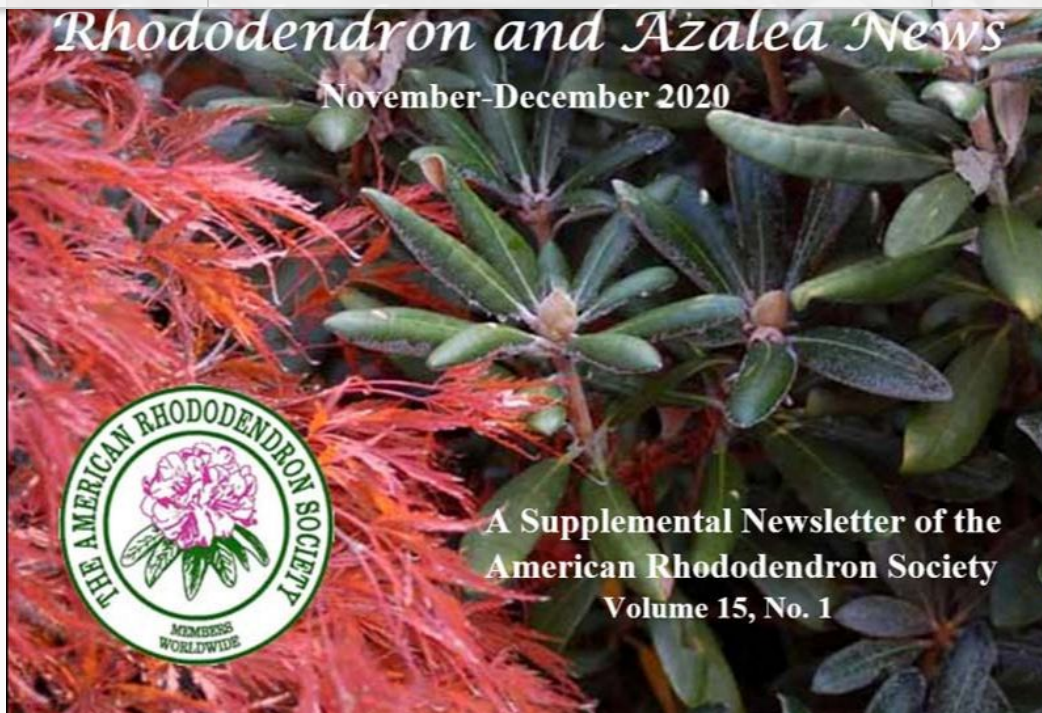
[ARS Store](#)

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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R & A News: Archived Issues

If you missed any back issues of the R & A News, we have started posting them online.

[Archives](#)

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