



RHODODENDRON SPECIES BOTANICAL GARDEN

WINTER / SPRING 2009 NEWSLETTER

Volume 34 Issues 1 & 2

SPECIES PROFILE

Rhododendron chrysodoron Tagg ex Hutch. 1934

Steve Hootman

As I write this article in mid-February, I am greatly inspired by the gorgeous yellow flowers adorning the fine container-grown specimens of *Rhododendron chrysodoron* in my back yard. In my opinion, this beautiful species is one of the most appropriately named of all rhododendrons (*chrysodoron* meaning "golden gift"). I consider this species well-named because its glowing golden-yellow flowers are always among the very first to appear each spring, typically in late January or early February - a very nice "gift" after our long, dark and dreary dormant season here in the Pacific Northwest. Of course, the "Golden Gift" moniker was not applied for this reason, but rather by botanists at the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh when the first flowering specimen in cultivation was presented to them by the Lord Stair in 1931 (Davidian 1982). With deep green, glossy foliage, striking deep yellow flowers and incredible dark, smooth and shiny bark, it is indeed, a lovely name for a very lovely plant.

Rhododendron chrysodoron has an interesting and somewhat mysterious origin and history in cultivation. It was described in 1934 from a plant raised from a collection made by George Forrest under the number 25446. This number, however, corresponds to a herbarium specimen of a member of Subsection *Maddenia* known as *R. yungchangense*, itself a very poorly known and still un-introduced species. Cullen (1980) notes that, because this new "species" shared char-

acteristics of both subsections *Boothia* and *Maddenia*, and was known only from this one collection, it could have been considered a natural hybrid between *yungchangense* (Ss. *Maddenia*) and *sulfureum* (Ss. *Boothia*), both of which were also collected in the Yungchang region. Instead, the very same year that it first flowered in cultivation (1931), Frank Kingdon Ward collected a specimen 240 km to the north of Yungchang in the Adung Valley of northern Burma. This collection perfectly matched the mysterious Yungchang specimen collected by Forrest. This same taxon was later re-collected by Kingdon Ward and re-introduced into cultivation from the "Triangle" of north Burma in 1953 (KW#20878). It was assumed that the species occurred over a wide area of northern Burma and adjacent western Yunnan (specifically - the Salween River region).

Following the KW collection in 1953, this somewhat enigmatic species had remained quite rare in cultivation and unknown from the wild until the autumn of 1997 when it was found in western Yunnan during the Chamberlain, Cox, Hootman and Hutchison (CCHH) Expedition to the Salween. We first observed this species in the Biluoxue Shan (mountains) that form the Mekong-Salween Divide along the eastern bank of the Salween River. From the small town of Fugong in the floor of the valley, we climbed higher and higher into the mountains, hoping to eventually reach the pass over the divide. At around 6,500 ft. (2000m), we encountered an extensive array of immense vertical cliffs that ran for hundreds of feet both straight up and straight down the now quite precarious path that had been carved directly into the cliff face. It was a particularly nasty bit of hiking and one in which it was sensible to apply one's fullest concentration to the task of proceeding forward, step by careful step. Waterfalls crashed down the distant slopes and the parting mist allowed brief glimpses of the perfectly shaped hemlocks (*Tsuga dumosa*) perched upon exposed outcrops like giant bonsai. Occasionally, as we crept along, we would stop for the occasional photo or bit of rest to note and enjoy the incredible array of epiphytic plants (here technically growing lithophytically, of course). Among the *Rhododendron* species were *maddenii* ssp. *crassum*, *nuttallii*, *xanthostephanum*, *simsii*, *megacalyx*, the rare *kyawii* (previously collected only on the west side of the Salween and in adjacent Burma), *horlickianum* (previously only known from a single collection made by Kingdon

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acteristics of both subsections *Boothia* and *Maddenia*, and was known only from this one collection, it could have been considered a natural hybrid between *yungchangense* (Ss. *Maddenia*) and *sulfureum* (Ss. *Boothia*), both of which were also collected in the Yungchang

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Ward in northern Burma – much like *chrysodoron*) and the strange *chrysodoron* which we did not initially recognize as such, calling it *Ss. Maddenia?* A truly remarkable set of plants growing in a most amazing setting.

We encountered *R. chrysodoron* once again several days later as we made our way into the Gaoligong Shan (the Salween/Irrawaddy Divide) north of Fugong in the very north-western corner of Yunnan near Gongshan on the western side of the Salween. In this area, the species was primarily found growing epiphytically in the trees alongside such treasures as *taggianum* and *Agapetes* sp. Further along the path, much as we had seen to the south in the Biluoxue Shan, we found *chrysodoron* growing on steep vertical cliffs at around 7,000 ft. (2130m). Here it grew in association with a similar mix of species as we had seen in the south, subtracting the southern *kyawii* and adding *seinghkuense* and the vireyas - *vaccinioides* and *emarginatum/asperulum*. This time, it was recognized by Peter Cox as possibly being a member of subsection *Boothia*. It was not until a couple of years later that I noted the similarity of our collections to the photos of *R. chrysodoron* presented in the newly published *Rhododendrons of China* Vol. III (1999). Our mysterious *Boothia?/Maddenia?* appeared to be the little-known *chrysodoron*! The first appearance of the correct flowers several years later verified my hypothesis - at last, we had found the “golden gift” in the wild.

With these additional field collections and the correlated widespread ranges along the Yunnan/Burma border of many *Rhododendron* species that were previously known only from one or two collections in the region, it seems perfectly reasonable to suggest that *R. chrysodoron* is found throughout the temperate rainforest of the S Tibet/NW Yunnan/N Burma region. It has been found at elevations ranging from 6,500 to 8,500 ft. (2000 to 2600m), always in extremely well-drained situations and habitats.

Rhododendron chrysodoron forms a smaller-growing, bushy shrub with dark reddish-brown, smooth and peeling bark. The young growth is bristly, becoming smooth with age. The elliptic leaves range from two to three inches long and around one or two inches wide (more or less 4 to 9 cm long by 2 to 5 cm wide) and are bristly when young, especially along the margins. The lower surface is covered with golden scales one to two times their diameter apart. Each terminal inflorescence contains three to seven bright to deep yellow, campanulate flowers, typically around one and one half inches long (3-4 cm) and often with reflexed lobes. The calyx is minute and the lepidote style is sharply deflexed.

This species is a member of Subsection *Boothia*, a small group of lepidote species of which only one or two species are even remotely well-known or widely grown in cultivation – *leucaspis* and *megeratum*. *R. chrysodoron* is quite similar and closely related to the seldom grown species *boothii* and *sulfureum*. Based upon morphology, range and habitat, I would say that *chrysodoron* is most closely related to *boothii*, a species from the eastern Himalaya that was only recently

re-introduced into cultivation. In many ways, *chrysodoron* represents the eastern end of a cline of these two species, differing primarily in its much smaller calyx, less hairy foliage and in its somewhat smaller leaves and flowers. It is distinguished from *sulfureum* by its minute, rim-like calyx among other minor botanical points.

In cultivation, this species remains quite rare. This is due to the relatively few collections that have been made in conjunction with its limited hardiness and temperamental performance in cultivation. The species is probably hardy to only +10 or even +15 F and requires excellent drainage whether grown in the ground or in a container. If provided with adequate drainage, it should make a fine landscape specimen in suitably mild climates such as northern California, New Zealand or Cornwall, for example. I have had some success growing this species in containers with a suitably quick-draining, barky media. As with many of the epiphytic species, it can be difficult to grow well at first due to the slow root growth, once established however, the plants are quite adaptable and vigorous. In the Pacific Northwest, plenty of light is advised for best performance. My personal, home-grown, specimens are much larger and more floriferous than the sister seedlings grown in the RSF coolhouse (which is suffering from too much shade due to excess tree cover and an old “skin” that needs replacing).

A fine form of this species exhibited by the Lord Aberconway in 1934 received the Award of Merit from the Royal Horticultural Society. This species has only rarely been used in hybridizing, resulting in clones such as ‘Lovelock’ and grexes such as *Chrysomanicum* Group (*x burmanicum*), *Chrypinense* Group (*x moupinense*), *Chrysapsis* Group (*x leucaspis*), etc.

ACCESSIONS IN THE COLLECTION OF THE RSF:

1976/218 Glenarn. A fine form.

2005#s (seven accessions) CCHH#8116. Seedlings grown from wild-collected seed.

NOTE: The RSF clone 1980/131 (ex. Trengwainton) that we distributed for many years as *chrysodoron* was a *Maddenia* hybrid and was eliminated from the collection. Our apologies for this mistake.

REFERENCES:

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Rhododendron Species Foundation: Records - 1964 to present.

EDITOR’S NOTE: The images on the cover are *Rhododendron chrysodoron* by Steve Hootman

Rhododendron Species Foundation Annual General Meeting

in conjunction with the Spring RSF Board of Director's Meeting



Saturday, May 16, 2008 10:00 am

Weyerhaeuser Corporate Campus
33633 Weyerhaeuser Way South, Federal Way, WA

AGENDA

9:30 AM-----Registration & Silent Auction

10:00 AM-----Annual General Meeting

12:00 AM-----Lunch

1:00 PM -----Speaker: **Chip Muller**

Spring Flowers of the Wolong Mountains

2:00 PM -----Announcements & Silent Auction

Please RSVP by filling out the form below

& return by mail or FAX to 253-838-4686

You may also RSVP by calling the office at

253-838-4646 or email to

victoria@rhodygarden.org

Thanks!

Registration & Lunch Reservation Form

Please note: Lunches cannot be sold at the door and reservations must be made by **May 14.**

_____ I will attend the Annual Meeting _____ Lunch reservation needed, payment enclosed

Reserve _____ lunch(s) at \$15.00 each. Total \$_____

Please indicate the number of lunches needed:

All sandwiches included potato chips, chocolate chip cookie, bottled water and a fruit cup unless otherwise noted.

_____ **Cougar:** Roast beef, Tillamook cheddar, scallion cream cheese spread, lettuce & tomato on a ciabatta roll.

_____ **Husky:** Bavarian ham, Swiss cheese, lettuce & tomato on marble rye bread.

_____ **Turkey Havarti:** Oven-roasted turkey breast, Havarti, lettuce & tomato on light wheat bread.

_____ **Vegetarian Wrap (VEGAN):** Cucumbers, tomatoes, fresh red peppers, vegetable coleslaw, fresh spinach with traditional humus wrapped inside a whole wheat tortilla. Served with a VEGAN molasses cookie.

_____ **Chicken Caesar Salad:** Grilled chicken breast, crisp romaine lettuce, Roma tomatoes, freshly-baked croutons and imported parmesan cheese with traditional Caesar dressing. Includes: roll, bottled water, fruit cup, and oatmeal cookie.

Name: _____

Method of Payment: _____ check (US) Funds _____ Visa _____ MasterCard _____ Discover

Account Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Vin Number: _____ (3 digits over signature on back of card)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please FAX form to 253-838-4686 or Mail to PO BOX 3798, Federal Way, WA 98063

RSBG NEWS & NOTES

Extraordinary Gifts

Everyone knows that 2008 was an economically difficult year. The Rhododendron Species Foundation was not immune, in that its endowment, while invested responsibly and conservatively, suffered a substantial loss, which we hope, however, will be temporary. Nevertheless, last year was, overall, a positive one for the RSF. A number of extraordinary contributions were received that will help catapult this dynamic organization into a new era of financial stability.

In case you are a new member or missed the announcement in the 2008 summer issue of the RSF Newsletter, the RSF received an exceptional pledge from the board of directors of *Fondation Franklinia*, chaired by Philippe de Spoelberch for 1 million USD spread over five years for the Endowment Fund. The RSF board and staff extend a sincere thank you to *Fondation Franklinia*, Chairman **Philippe de Spoelberch**, and Vice Chairman **Caroline de Spoelberch** for the second \$200,000 received for the Endowment and \$10,000 for garden renovation in February 2009. Many thanks to the Foundation and especially to the Spoelberchs.

A \$40,000 gift to the RSF was received in December from a charitable lead annuity trust established by **Ben and Margaret Hall**. For the years 2008-2013, the trust document allows the RSF either to use these funds directly or to add them to the endowment. The board and staff are deeply grateful to Dr. & Mrs. Hall for this gift and those to follow in the future! These generous contributions will definitely enhance the progress of the RSF. Thank you so much Ben and Margaret!

As well, it was announced last summer that the RSF received an unexpected gift of \$232,500 from the estate of **Charles T. Larus**, a long-time member from Bloomfield, Connecticut. There were no restrictions attached to the gift so the RSF Executive Committee voted to place \$200,000 in the Endowment with the remainder going into operations.

An anonymous donor contributed \$25,000 in October for operations of the RSF. This gift went a very long way to help pay expenses during a year when income from sales and such were down slightly. Sincere gratitude goes out to the donor.

For those new to the RSF the following is a bit of background on our benefactors mentioned above:

Dr. Ben Hall is a professor in the Departments of Biology and Genome Sciences at the University of Washington in Seattle. He joined the University in the Genetics Department in 1963, and served as chair from 1970 to 1985. In 1981, he and fellow scientists introduced human interferon into simple baker's yeast, leading to two inventions that allow the use of yeast cells to make a Hepatitis B vaccine, human insulin,

and human serum albumin. Dr. Hall was honored in 2004 with the first University of Washington Inventor of the Year Award.

Philippe de Spoelberch is a prominent Belgian businessman who is keenly interested in horticulture. He created the 37 acre Arboretum Wespelaar in Haacht-Wespelaar, Belgium, some 10 miles north of Brussels, where *Magnolia*, *Ilex*, *Rhododendron*, *Acer*, *Viburnum*, *Fagus*, and *Quercus* are a few of the genera on which he has focused. He is Vice Chairman of the International Dendrology Society.

Fondation Franklinia, established by Monsieur de Spoelberch, is to support the conservation and display of the world's flora. Monsieur de Spoelberch, as Chairman, along with his daughter, Caroline de Spoelberch as Vice Chairman, and a board of trustees oversee the Foundation's mission. As a priority, the Foundation supports the objectives and the financing of activities of Arboretum Wespelaar, but it also supports financially any person, institution, botanical garden or private collection throughout the world, or any activity whatsoever of a botanical or horticultural nature, provided that it contributes to knowledge and conservation of plants worldwide.

In 1998 Dr. Hall joined the RSF board and he has served on the Executive Committee since 2005. Monsieur de Spoelberch joined the RSF board in 2005.

Rutherford Conservatory

The permits for the new conservatory that will display the *Vireya* collection and other tender plants have finally been approved by the City of Federal Way! One cause for the delay was the requirement of a land use site plan. This meant having to hire a landscape architect and site planning pro-



Artist Susan Heston's conception of the new RSBG Tropical Conservatory

fessional to create drawings for an overall site plan showing all the information required by the City for land use approval. Also, a public comment period was necessary.

Originally, the plan for the Conservatory was to use Lexan, a highly durable polycarbonate resin thermoplastic, for the roof. During the permitting process we learned that the fire code required a sprinkler system to be installed because this material is flammable; therefore, it was decided to change the plan and use glass for the roof. The cost was much higher but long-time member and Board member, **Fran Rutherford** of Port Orchard, Washington, who has been the primary contributor to this project, donated the funds for this more expensive, yet much more appealing, option. We offer sincere gratitude to Fran for being the driving force and supporter of the tropical display house. Thank you so much, Fran! And thank you, too, to the other contributors to this project.

Garden Campaign

The board and staff are also very grateful to the following members for their generous contributions to the garden campaign (through 3/15/2009): Paul W. Anderson, Gwen & Francis Bell, Edgar Bristol, Carol Chapin, David & Cathy Colby, Lucille Fleischmann, Kenneth W. Gross, Margaret Huie, Stan Hungerford, Clyde & Jean Kalahan, Anita Lockhart, William C. McCarthy, Pat McGill, William McMillan, Mitch & Sandy Mitchell, David R. Morel, William Norris, Jr., Eldean & Ray Rempel, Sandra Rossire, Charles Sale & Margaret Charlton, Claudia Tidball, Jon Villaume, Conrad Watne, and Ann Williams. Thank you!

Current Needs

You may have noticed that a "wish list" reappeared on the back cover of the RSF Newsletter last autumn after an absence of a few years. There are always items, both large and small, that are needed by the staff and volunteers but are usually outside the annual operations budget. After publishing the list last fall we received two chainsaws thanks to **Joe & Joanne Ronsley** and **Keith & Wendy White** as well as an anonymous donation of \$1,000 designated towards a new tractor. We are very appreciative of these gifts – Thank you so much! Turn to the back cover of this issue for an updated list.

Life Membership – Please Note

At the January meeting of the RSF Executive Committee the EC voted to reduce the subscription of a Life Membership to \$2,000 bringing the Life Member level more into line with other major horticultural organizations. \$1,000 will go directly into the Endowment Fund, and \$1,000 into operations.

RSF Website

The RSF has a new webmaster. Our own Victoria Gundersen has taken over the updating and design of the RSF website. Sincere thanks go to Bill Spohn of Vancouver, Canada who was the original creator of the site, and has volunteered the last five years as webmaster. Anytime I sent him some-



www.rhodygarden.org home page

thing to add or change on the website Bill was Johnny-on-the-Spot! Thank you so much, Bill, for the numerous hours you spent setting up the website, creating the photo gallery, and maintaining it. I am sure I speak for all associated with the RSF when I say how much we appreciate all your time and efforts!

If you haven't dropped by the RSF website recently, please take a moment to check out the recent changes. Victoria has been charging full steam ahead with new ideas and features. You may go directly to www.rhodygarden.org or

Membership Directory

Many thanks go to Board Member **Ian Walker** for all his time and efforts in putting together the RSF Membership Directory that was published along with the 2009 yearbook, *Rhododendron Species*. In addition, the RSF board and staff are very grateful to Ian and his wife, **Jean Muir**, for funding the publication. Thank you so much! Members, **please note**, if there are corrections to your information, please contact the RSF office at 253-838-4646.

Google 'Rhododendron Species Foundation.'

In Memoriam

Burt Mendlin, long-time member and former president of the RSF (1989-1991), past away in early November 2008 in Longview, Washington. Our sincere condolences go to his wife, Polly, and his family and friends. An avid rhododendron enthusiast Burt was an active member of the Lower Columbia Rhododendron Club as well as the Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. He and Polly grew many hybrids and species in their garden. In fact, their daughter, Jill, wrote the following as an acknowledgement of his keen interest in the genus:

~ Ode to Burt Mendlin ~

I heard my Dad say, "Come over here Polly. Look how gorgeous Mrs. Furnivall is and Mrs. C. B. Van Ness is a beauty too. Did you see that indumentum on her underside? Oh, and Elizabeth is about ready to pop!" What could this mean and why would he be telling my Mom? Should I run to her

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rescue to shield her eyes? Oh – it's those rhododendrons.

I used to think that Dad was doting on his grandchildren when he'd say that he had to check on his "babies." He loves those kids a lot but this is not what he meant. One night I heard him say, "Guess I'll go home and transplant my babies," and I couldn't quite imagine the transformation the grandkids would undergo. Then out came a stack of plant pots and I knew his "babies" were those rhodies again.

It seems like we have a huge family with all the talk of Fabia and Rex, Bowbells and Moonstone. We don't really have a large family; it just those shirttail flowers.

Everyone is always welcome to tour the Mendlin family. The ladies will be festooned with bright petticoats, but don't expect much conversation from wardii or williamsianum...

Dad, Thank you for all you provided us through the years and for carefully cultivating us all
Written by Jill (Mendlin) Bernier

Vireyas

Vireyas encompass almost one-third of the genus *Rhododendron* and soon the RSF will have a new facility for the public display of this diverse group of plants from southeast Asia and northern Australia. Below and on the next page are just a few samples of the colorful and varied blooms of the Vireyas that will be planted in the Rutherford Conservatory.



Rhododendron praetervisum



Rhododendron maius

Volunteer of the Year 2008

Rick Peterson

I am very happy to announce **Winnie Adams** as Volunteer of the Year 2008! Winnie began helping in the RSF office in November 2004, although she had been volunteering in the Garden on occasion and at many of the plant sale fundraisers for a number of years previously. Winnie comes to Federal Way once a week from Redmond, Washington with her husband, Rollo Adams, a long-time and legendary volunteer. In fact, she knew when she married Rollo in 1994 that being involved with the RSF was a prenuptial agreement! Winnie assists with filing, mailings, data entry, putting stickers on the 10,000 rack cards after some of the information changed, and almost anything we ask her to do! When the first yearbook was published in 2006 Winnie, along with a few other wonderful volunteers, was kind enough to spend many extra hours preparing the yearbooks for mailing to all members, a daunting activity for the staff right as the spring season was beginning. As I write this Winnie is applying address labels to the spring plant sale postcards, not the most exciting of tasks; yet, as with other such jobs, she doing it with cheer and good spirits.

Winnie, you are a very caring and thoughtful person, a friend of superlative character, and we thank you so much for your support, dedication, and friendship. Indeed, it is a pleasure to work with you and the staff is so very grateful for the numerous hours you donated last year and the many years you have been a dedicated volunteer.



Winnie Adams, above, filing in the RSF office - a sweet nature and gentle approach makes her mere presence a welcome donation!

Jessica Arcate - Bronx, NY
 The Lady Anne Berry - Tiniroto, New Zealand
 Ramona Burr - Renton, WA
 Ian Chalk - Wynyard, Australia
 Matt Crosby - Vashon, WA
 Alejandra Cusi - Mexico City, Mexico
 Bret Duvall - Aberdeen, WA
 Andy Earle - Devon, PA
 Carol Eckrom - Tacoma, WA
 Roy Farrow - Snohomish, WA

Richard Gordon - Burton, WA
 Peggy Jackson - Bellevue, WA
 Ole Jonny Larsen - Alesund, Norway
 Mini Nehru - Redmond, WA
 Joseph Nemmer - Mercer, PA
 Nancy Pasic - Federal Way, WA
 Margaret Sedensky - Seattle, WA
 Jeanie Tredo - Auburn, WA
 Margaret Wuersten - Tacoma, WA

Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden

The RSBG Newsletter is published quarterly in winter, spring, summer, and fall by the Rhododendron Species Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Submissions are due by the first of the month, 8 weeks before publication. Email rick@rhodygarden.org

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Contributions (11/1/2008 - 3/15/2009) THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Life Member Gifts

Rollo & Winnie Adams
 Anonymous - \$25,000
 Philippe de Spoelberch
 Jay & Pamela Green
 Ben & Margaret Hall
 Robert & Janice Nelson
 Paul & Diane Thompson
 June Sinclair
 Keith & Wendy White
 Fred & Ann Whitney

Member Gifts

ARS Olympic Peninsula Chapter
 ARS Massachusetts Chapter
 ARS Seattle Chapter
 Mary Crofts
 Mary Boatwright
 Werner Brack
 Bruce Duffy
 B. J. Falanga
 Pat Galligan
 Chip Muller
 Stan Southerland
 Ian Walker & Jean Muir
 Bruce Simonds
 Bettie Snoey

B. J. Suse
 Jennifer Velinty
 Elizabeth Ward

Endowment Gifts

Fondation Franklinia
 Martha Robbins
 Elizabeth Ward

Rutherford Conservatory

ARS Hawaii Chapter

Intern Program

ARS California Chapter
 ARS Middle Atlantic Chapter
 ARS Valley Forge Chapter

Garden Renovation

Fondation Franklinia



Rhododendron bryophilum

In Memoriam (11/1/2008 - 3/15/2009)

In Memory of Gertrude Beese

ARS Shelton Chapter

In Memory of Edith de Burlo

Margaret Huie

In Memory of Frank Heuston

ARS Shelton Chapter

In Memory of Freda Johnson

ARS Shelton Chapter

In Memory of Robert Levack

ARS Shelton Chapter

In Memory of Lillian Peste

ARS Shelton Chapter

In Memory of Burt Mendlin

Mary K. Briant
 Danny & Charmaine Ghent
 Steven Marrow
 Mr. & Mrs. Ray G. McDermott
 Polly Mendlin



Rhododendron leucogigas

We are very grateful to the above contributors for their thoughtfulness in choosing the RSBG for their gifts.

Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden
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Visit our web site:
www.rhodygarden.org

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2009 Calendar

April

4 & 5 – Spring Plant Sale

29 & 30 – American Rhododendron Society
Convention in Everett, Washington

May

1, 2, & 3 – American Rhododendron Society
Convention in Everett, Washington (continues)

9 & 10 – Federal Way Buds & Blooms
Spring Garden Festival ~ Mother's Day Weekend

16 – Annual General Meeting

30 – Volunteer Picnic & Work Party

September

TBA – Fall Plant Sale

December

11 – Volunteer Christmas Party

Rhododendron Species
Botanical Garden

WISH LIST

Tractor - The Garden has had to replace its 29 year-old tractor. The new one cost \$16,000 (check the website); We are hoping for donations to help repay the loan. **An anonymous donation of \$1,000 has already been received - thank you so much!**

Wheelbarrows (\$50 each)

2 x 6 foot plastic top tables (\$50 each)
(we need the tables for our plant sale fundraisers)

Thank you to the Seattle Rhododendron Society for contributing \$150 towards tables!

If you would like to donate any of these items (new or gently used) or the money towards the purchase of one or more for the RSBG, please contact the office at 253-838-4646 or

rick@rhodygarden.org.

You will be provided with a letter that serves as a tax deductible receipt for all donations of

funds or in-kind gifts.

THANK YOU!