

**Southeastern Chapter
American Rhododendron Society**

Silent Auction and Banquet

March 21, 2015

The Chariot, Hendersonville, NC

The Chariot in Hendersonville was the site for our March 21st Banquet, with 36 people, including 3 guests, present.

The Silent Auction had 43 plants for the silent auction (12 were free donations), and 4 plants for a live auction for which Doley Bell was the auctioneer. Our speaker, Ed Davis sold some wild flowers and copies of Larry Mellichamp's book, *Native Plants of the Southeast: A Comprehensive Guide to the Best 460 Species for the Garden*. Don Haynes sold raffle tickets for two books and a gorgeous blooming Re-Blooming Azalea and April Sanborn had entry forms for the Flower Show.

President Ray Head welcomed the members and guests. Sieglinde Anderson announced a field trip to visit the UNC-Charlotte Botanical Gardens. April 18 has been proposed to tie in with a plant sale there. She also announced another proposed trip to East Fork Nursery in Sevierville, TN, perhaps on May 9th, the Saturday before Mothers' Day, to tie in with the UT Bloomsdays Sale. An e-mail will be sent to the membership and posted on the web site when the dates are determined.

Following the delicious buffet meal, Program Chair Sieglinde Anderson introduced Dr. Ed Davis, Horticultural Director of the UNC-Charlotte Botanical Gardens who spoke on the "Mellichamp Native Terrace Garden" at UNC. There is some concern that some of the rhododendrons in their collection may not be correctly named, as their data base is no longer compatible with the current computer operating system.

Winners for the raffle items were drawn. Marilyn Haynes won the Ted Van Veen Book, Betty Becker won the Larry Mellichamp book, and Suzanne Medd won the beautiful Re-blooming Azalea.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Haynes, Secretary