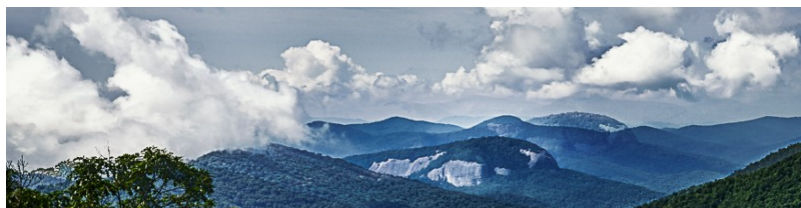




The Blue Ridge Review



SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

June/July 2017

Encouragement of the culture of Rhododendrons

SE-ARS ANNUAL PICNIC AND P4M FROM DOLEY BELL'S GARDEN

Our annual Delicious Pot Luck Picnic and Plants for Members (P4M) meeting will be generously hosted by Hazel and Byron Richards at their beautiful home and garden at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 16. The Richards live at 31 South Ridge Dr., Hendersonville, NC.

Please bring some picnic food to share. (Last year my favorite was Pam McCarter's fresh blueberry pie. She gave me the recipe.) If you remember, bring a chair for the picnic and the plant sale. Jean Pace will bring paper and plastic goods.

The P4M plants will be sold after the picnic for \$3 each. This year the cuttings for the P4M event were generously donated by Doley Bell. He has an incredibly fabulous collection of mature rhododendrons that were originally planted by the previous owners of his property, the Deans, who were SE-ARS members.

When Leon Pace, Doley Bell and I took the photos of the flowers in bloom in May of 2016, there were some plants that had finished blooming, so we don't have photos of those flowers. We took 300 cuttings in July of 2016.* The rooted cuttings were propagated with the generous help of Transplant Nursery of Georgia, and we usually get around 100 rooted cuttings.

*As of this writing Doley and Leon will be picking rooted cuttings up in GA shortly before the picnic. Right now they don't know which ones rooted from the cuttings taken at Doley's.

By Audrey Stelloh

BRING CUTTINGS FOR NEXT YEAR'S P4M EVENT

The P4M committee is asking for donations of rhododendron cuttings to be rooted for next year's P4M event. Please bring cuttings that are in plastic bags, and are well-hydrated, chilled and labeled with the name of the rhody and the name of the donor. Cuttings will be shared with members too.

Thank you. *Audrey*



Last year's picnic.

DEXTER MEETING:

We plan to gather on **Sunday June 25th** at St John's Parish Hall at 2pm. Anyone that has grown Dexters in the past or is interested in learning more about them, please come. If you are growing Dexters please bring a list of their names and when possible, where you obtained them. If you have questions, contact Ray Head.

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FLOWER SHOW 2017 — ANOTHER SUCCESS!!

Despite the mild winter and warm spring this year causing many of the varieties of azaleas and rhododendrons in our gardens to bloom out early, our chapter managed to put on a very nice show. Overall, the number of entries was down this year- 126 vs. 174 last year, most notably in the category of evergreen azaleas.

A lot of work goes into this endeavor and for everyone who helped; from those involved in the set up and take down of the show, to the judges, and to those who brought entries, you have my heartfelt thanks.

On to the winners: For those wondering, in keeping with standards adopted by other flower shows, the Best in Show category has been dropped.

Best Rhododendron- 'Vivacious' exhibited by Doley Bell

Best Deciduous Azalea- 'Clear Creek' exhibited by Audrey Stelloh

Best Evergreen Azalea- 'Yubai' exhibited by Audrey Stelloh

Notable Best in Section winners were:

Best Lepidote Rhododendron- R. Minus 'Bowie' exhibited by Ray Head

Best Floral Arrangement by Marilyn Haynes

Sweepstakes

Congratulations go out to all ten exhibitors who entered this year's show. Like last year, everyone who submitted entries received points. The top five vote getters for Sweepstakes votes were:

1. Audrey Stelloh- 72
2. Doley Bell- 65
3. Marilyn and Don Haynes- 45
4. Ray Head- 30
5. Jackson McCarter

The votes cast by the general public for People's Choice was down considerably this year. Nevertheless, the votes cast still count and the winners are as follows:

People's Choice Rhododendron

1. Bell- 'Dexter's Pink Sparkler'- 6
2. McCarter- 'Anna Rose Whitney'- 5
3. Pace- 'Blue Peter'- 3
4. Bell- 'Vivacious'- 2
Pace- 'Vivacious'- 2
McCarter- 'Henry's Red'- 2

People's Choice Azalea

1. Sanborn- 'Ben Morrison'- 7
2. Bell- 'Gibraltar'- 2
Gothard- 'Mandarin Light'- 2
Pace—'Great Balls of Fire' -2



Best Elepidote Rhododendron:
'Vivacious' -- Doley Bell



Best Deciduous Azalea:
'Clear Creek' - Audrey Stelloh



Best Evergreen Azalea:
'Yubai' - Audrey Stelloh



Best Lepidote Rhododendron
R. minus 'Bowie' - Ray Head



Best Floral Arrangement
Marilyn Haynes

By April Sanborn

June/July 2017

PLANTS FOR MEMBERS FROM CUTTINGS FROM DOLEY BELL'S GARDEN

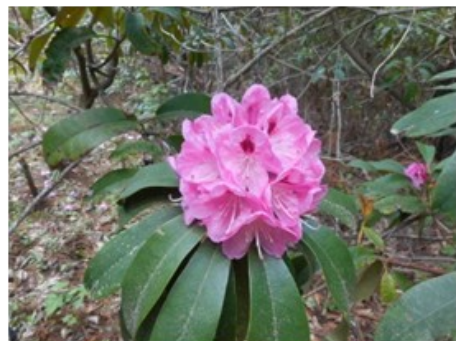
At our July 16th SE-ARS picnic at the Richards home, members of SE-ARS will have an opportunity to purchase the following plants grown from cuttings gathered from the Doley Bell's Garden. The Bells took over the care of their 8-acre diverse garden in 2000 from Dave and Naomi Dean. You will get a sense of the splendor of the Bell's garden from the photos below. Thanks to Audrey Stelloh and Leon Pace for gathering , and to Doley and Melody for sharing their splendid collection by offering the cuttings to us all.



201-Sphinx



202-Dexter's Purple



203-Nearing's Pepto Bismal (sic) Jean



204-Lepidote, Carolinianum x Augustinii



205-Kelley



206-Fortunei x Murcot (?)



207-Parker's Pink



208-Dexter with wrong tag....might be brown eyes



209-(Midnight Red) or Captain Jack

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PLANTS FOR MEMBERS LIST — continued



210-Calsap



211-Brown Eyes



213-unknown - dark pink with darker blotch possibly Hurricane



214-Pink Sparkle



216-R. minus, Dunn Mt?



217-Tetraploid Fortunei (yellow throat)



222-My Jane-yellow



223-Francesca



224-Henry's Red

The following cuttings were past bloom when we visited, so there are not photos:

212-Max x Calophytum

221-Solidarity

228-Hurricane

215-Rona Pink

225-Ted's Apricot

229-Laurelwood Copper

218-Dexter's Amythyst

226-Mrs. T. H. Lowinsky

(copper indumentum)

219-Beauty of Littleworth

227-Purple Splendor

Stellloh cuttings —Oakland

220-Dexter's Acclaim

Sunrise and Smoky #9

June/July 2017

A MEMORABLE VISIT TO THE McCARTER GARDEN

On a stormy Sunday, April 23rd, four of us (Mary Ann and Ray Head and Judy and Chuck Van Rens) braved the weather to take a stroll through the McCarter garden in Travelers Rest. It must have been ordained that we enjoy this wonderful garden because the weather cooperated completely: We arrived at 3 to rainy weather; we enjoyed conversation and snacks graciously offered by the McCarters for about 20 minutes. As we set out on our walk, the rain stopped. We walked and enjoyed the beautiful atmosphere of their natural setting for about an hour and a half. As we approached our cars to depart, the rain began again.

As we walked along paths in this natural setting with hills and lakes and groups of fascinating plant species, we were drawn to a lovely red Sanctum azalea, a 3-leaved specimen from Japan, which Jackson grew from seed. We were then educated about the rhododendron metternichii, a native Japanese rhododendron which was named by Germans Siebold and Zuccarini to honor Prince Meternich who was a rhododendron enthusiast. Then our eyes were drawn to an orange deciduous azalea hybrid, which Jackson said is more showy than the native austrinum.

We were awed by several large specimens: a 30-foot-high fortunai, a 40-year-old white hyperythum with a little pink in the center, and a 30-year-old Anna Rose Whitney that is 20 feet tall. Our admiration of so many wonderful rhododendron species was supplemented by breathtaking displays of blooming trillium, especially trillium luteum with its large yellow flowers.

As we meandered back toward the house, we stopped at Jackson's propagation center, an impressive structure filled with a display of different sizes and varieties of young plants, many of them housed in Nearing frames. Jackson's skills and efforts will guarantee that the beauty of these wonderful plants will continue to inspire many for years to come.

MARILYN AND DON HAYNES SHARE THEIR GARDEN

We drove out to the Haynes garden on a sunny afternoon in May. They're very proud of their one-acre woodland garden which was started in the late 1970's by John Peavey, a friend of Augie Kerr. We started by looking at a few stand-outs in their front yard.: a beautiful Marchioness of Lansdowne, which is pink with a purple center, and an attractive PJM, which is purple.

(continued on page 6)



Umbrellas needed briefly



Deciduous Azalea Hybrid



White Hyperythum



Trillium Luteum



**Southeastern Chapter of
American Rhododendron Society
280 Tramell Rd.
Travelers Rest, SC 29690**

ENCOURAGEMENT OF RHODODENDRONS

Officers and Directors

(beginning July 1, 2017)

President: Sieglinde Anderson

Treasurer: Jackson McCarter

Vice President: Jerry Neff

Directors until 2018—Doley Bell,
John Kendall, and Leon Pace

Directors until 2019—
Wayne Hutchins, Jay Jackson,
Chuck Van Rens

Secretary: Pamela McCarter

Editor: Judy Van Rens

Mark your Calendar

**Sunday, June 25, 2 pm —
Dexter Discussion and
Sharing—**St. John in the
Wilderness Parish Hall

**Sunday, July 16, 2 p.m.
Annual SE-ARS Picnic and
P4M at Richards Garden,**
31 South Ridge Dr.,
Hendersonville, NC.

SPECIAL 'THANK YOU!

**Thank you to Ray Head for
serving us so well as
president. We look forward to
your continuing to share your
knowledge with us!!**

*Please submit articles for next news-
letter by August 15*

HAYNES GARDEN (continued)

As we wandered through their back garden area, we learned that the Haynes have lived in this beautiful natural setting on the side of Long John Mountain for 12 years. They have enhanced the original splendor of the place by following Don's rule: "In a nursery, if a plant is buzzing with bees, buy it!" They showed us a Wardii rhododendron which was finished blooming, but we could see the remnants of lovely yellow blossoms with red throats. The back area paths are bordered by many camellias, along with rhodis and azaleas that were at the tail-end of their bloom. At the end of our tour, we were treated to an Admiral Semmes deciduous azalea resplendent with large deep yellow flowers. We thank the Haynes for sharing their treasured place with us.



Gorgeous PJM