

THE BLUE RIDGE REVIEW

Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society



Encouragement of the culture of Rhododendrons

October 2008

Plants for Members

Sunday October 19 at 2:00 PM

Saint John in the Wilderness, Flat Rock, NC

Our October meeting is one of our most exciting events of the year. Members will have the opportunity to select from a wide variety of rooted and potted cuttings just perfect to fill out your collection, or to fill a certain space in your



Don Johnson after unloading plants for last year's P4M.

landscape. Our President, Don Johnson and Glenn O'Sheal collected nearly 400 cuttings from our own members' gardens, so you know they are special. Many are valued Dexter hybrids; several are exquisite hybrids of

Don's and other local folks, that are just not available anywhere else! They are in 2 1/2 inch pots and will need to be transplanted into larger pots right away. The list is included with this newsletter. Glenn O'Sheal, chairman of this event, says that our price for members will only be \$3.00! All plants are subject to availability.

We will show pictures of many of the blooms before having the opportunity to pick out the ones you simply MUST HAVE. Members with plants of these varieties will tell us about their experiences.

For a **color** copy of the Blue Ridge Review,

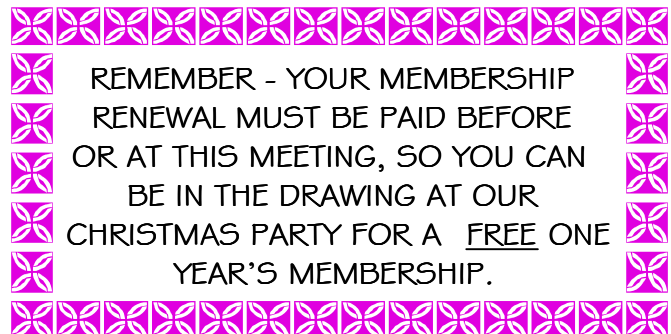
Visitors are welcomed and encouraged to attend, but they must join our Chapter before participating in this one of a kind sale. Even with the cost of a membership these plants are a bargain! This event is the premiere benefit of membership in SEARS.

The attached list (pages 3 and 4) shows the bloom time in terms of Early (E), Mid (M) and Late (L) season. Also the mature height of the plant, the hardiness in degrees Fahrenheit and other comments as were found on the Internet or from other sources. The < or > indicates a picture is shown, either to the left or right. Now is the time to request your **color** copy of the Blue Ridge Review in a PDF file!



Dexter hybrids, like this R. Alice Poore, are featured in this year's Plants for Members event.

Saint John in the Wilderness is at 1895 Greenville Highway (US 225 South [old 25 south] at Rutledge Dr.) Flat Rock, NC.



Fall Ideal for Planting Trees & Shrubs

*By Dr. Douglas F. Welsh
Professor and Extension Horticulturist*

Finally, fall is here. The weather is becoming slightly cooler, and gardeners are slowly migrating back outdoors after record-breaking heat this summer. Now is a perfect time to add a new tree or a grouping of shrubs to the landscape. Or perhaps you have an area in the landscape that needs “remodeling” or rejuvenating. The fall may be the best season to plant, surpassing even the spring.

Many people prefer January through March for planting, but the fall months of September through December have distinct advantages. Fall planting follows the heat of summer, and precedes a cool winter season. Trees and shrubs planted use this to good advantage. Plant roots grow anytime the soil temperature is 40 degrees or higher, which may occur all winter in our area. During the winter months, the root systems of the fall-planted specimens develop and become established. When spring arrives, this expanded root system can support and take advantage of the full surge of spring growth.



All plants have growing requirements. Think about the plant’s needs before you invest. Is it adapted to your area’s soil? Will it grow in sun or shade? Does it need a wet or dry location? Is it cold hardy? Some nurseries have this type of information on tags beside the plant. If not, ask a nursery professional or the county Extension agent.

‘Plan before you plant’ is always a good rule of thumb. Whether you are planting a single plant or an entire landscape, plan first, then plant. Good planning is a worthwhile investment of time that will pay off in greater enjoyment of attractive and useful home grounds, and in increasing the value of your home. It’s much easier to move plants on paper than to dig them after planting in the wrong place. A plan saves many planting mistakes.

Every plant in the landscape should serve a purpose. Ask yourself if you want a plant for screening, for privacy, or for shade. How large will it be five years

from now? Plants, like people, grow up. Remember, that a small one-gallon size plant will look entirely different after a few years of growth in your landscape.

Plant properly for success. Here are a few guidelines on getting the job done right:

1. Dig a hole large enough in diameter so that the root system has at least six inches of clearance on all sides. The root ball should rest on a solid soil foundation, so don’t dig the hole much deeper than the ball.

2. Plant the tree or shrub slightly above the level of the surrounding soil, to allow for settling and increased soil drainage.



3. Carefully place the tree or shrub in the hole. Handle the plant by the root ball, not by the trunk. A broken ball of earth can mean a dead plant. Always remove any container before you plant.

4. Back fill the hole, using only the native soil removed from the hole; do not use soil amendments when planting large shrubs and trees. Fill the hole, and firm the soil around the plant. Water thoroughly to settle the soil around the roots and to eliminate any air pockets.

5. Do not fertilize your tree or shrub after planting. Wait until early in the spring to do this, and even then, go lightly. Heavy applications of fertilizer may burn and injure the root system, and could possibly kill the plant.

6. Watering has been and remains paramount in transplanting. At the time of transplanting, soak the root ball and surrounding soil. A thorough watering every 7 to 10 days dramatically increases the success ratio. More frequent watering may encourage root rot. Remember more trees and shrubs fail from over watering than from under watering.

7. Before calling it a day, add 4 to 6 inches of mulch around the base of newly planted trees and shrubs. This helps to keep down weeds and conserve soil moisture. Use pine bark, compost, grass clippings, or leaves.

Fall is for planting. Visit your nursery today, and beautify and add value to your home.

SEARS 2008 PLANTS FOR MEMBERS

All are one year rooted cuttings in 2 1/2" pots.

Acclaim > - M, 4' -5,
Purplish red, Rounded well
branched plant, Dexter



Alice Poore - EM, 5, -5,
Pink, Much like Scintillation,
Dexter

Anita Gehrich - M, 3, -15,
Deep pink, Domed truss of 14 flowers



< **Antoon Van Welie** - LM,
6, -5, Deep pink, Huge
flowers, very nice trusses,
vigorous upright growth habit

April Pink - E, 3, -10, Deep
pink, Slightly fragrant,
compact habit

Argentina - 4', Rose Red,
compact



Arnold Piper > - M, 6, -5, Rose
red, currant red buds, flowers 5"
wide

Arthur Bedford - LM, 6, -5,
Lavender/Mauve, Large upright habit, sun tolerant



< **Award** - ML, 5, 0, White
w/yellow flare, margins shaded
pink, 4.5" wide, fragrant, ball
shaped truss, long narrow
medium-green leaves

Bell #3 - UNK believed to be
2nd generation Dexter

Bass River > - M-LM, 5, -5,
Purplish pink, Truss of 14
flowers, fine habit, glossy
foliage



Cat yak SG - no information
available

Charlestown - M, 8, -5, Pink, chartreuse throat, 7
lobed flowers, 16 in truss, fragrant, large leaves,
upright plant, sturdy grower

Chestertown - no information available

Cowle's 152-70 y - 5', yellow, pink edge

Cox #5 - UNK believed be 2nd generation Dexter

Dexter's Apricot > - M, 4', 0,
Apricot blushed pink, Compact
plant of broad rounded habit,
truss of 12-15 large flowers,
matte olive-green leaves



Dexter's Damozel - 6', -15,
Bright red, Dark green leaves

Dexter's Encore - 5', blued pink



< **Dexter's Springtime** - LM, 3,
0, Rose red buds to creamy
white flowers, 3 1/2 " wide with
deep pink spots

Dexter's Tan - 6', Apricot pink

Dexter's Winterthur - 7', Pink

Dr. Heck - 6', Buff Pink

Elizabeth Poore - M, 5', -10, Pinkish Lavender,
Purplish red buds, trusses of 14 flowers, Dexter

Fireking x hyperythrum - rose red, dense

Flaming Snow > - M, 6', -15,
Pink buds, light pink flowers
fade to white with red spots,
narrow leaves, good form,
Dexter



Fort x Donna's Day (Peavy)

- M. 6', -10, Rose pink, Large ball truss, upright
plant

Frances Shannon Ravoff - pink, 2nd Generation
Dexter



Guy Loomis - 10', Dense Pink

< **Halfdan Lem** - M, 5', -5, Red

Helen Everitt - LM-L, 5', -15,
White, Very large flowers, 5 "
across, leaves 4" x 2"

(Continued on other side.)

Hello Dolly - EM, 3', -10, Pink w/ yellow throat



< **Hypermax (Thornton)** - E, 4 1/2', -15, White w/ red speckled blotch, Large 3" flowers, full round truss, large very dark green leaves, heat tolerant, compact lusty grower

Katherine Slater - M, 5', -10, Lavender pink, Large truss, open habit with good foliage

Kaye Player - EM, 3', 0, Pink, Heat tolerant

Keen & Peachy - M, 5', Yellow-pink w/ 7 lobes, domed truss, glossy yellow green leaves, D. Johnson

Lem's Monarch > - M, 6', -5, Bright pink w/ white throat, very large truss, large attractive foliage



Lisenne Rockefeller - 3', white, dense spreading low growing, heat and drought tolerant, (Van nes Sensation x hyperythrum)



< **Magic Mood** -Pink bud to pale yellow flower w/ 6-7 wavy edged lobes, 9 flowers in truss, Delp

Maxecat - M, 6', -5, Delicate pink, crinkly dark foliage, vigorous.

Miss Diane - 5', Yellow, Don Johnson

Miss Rose Y - 5', Yellow, Don Johnson



Newburyport Beauty > -15, Pink w/ yellow throat, nice Dexter



NY #10 Dex - 5', named pink Dexter

< **Pearce's American Beauty** - VL, 6', 0, Beet red w/ yellow spots, 18 flowers per truss

Pink Sparkle - 6', pink, Dexter



Princess Anne > - EM, 1', -5, Yellow w/ greenish cast, compact habit with bronze-colored winter foliage



< **Red River** - LM, 6', -20, Bright red w/ white throat, tall full truss w/ 16-19 flowers, large long leaves

Robert Bosley - -25, Pink w/ yellow centers, wavy lobes, Dexter

Sagamore Bridge - M, 6', -5, Purplish pink w/ dull yellow throat, heavy textured spherical trusses of about 14 flowers, Dexter

Shawme Lake - EM, 5', -15, Lavender pink, open truss, lovely flower, Dexter hybrid



Silver Skies > - EM, 2', -5, Pale pink w/ deep pink purplish edges, flat trusses of 15-16 2" flowers, 4" long glossy bluish-green leaves, fawn indumentum

Star Burst - 6', Deep red purple w/ yellow blotch

Tripoli - EM, 5', -10, Bright pinkish red, high foliage density, Dexter cross



< **Vincent Van Gogh** - EM, 5', -10, White w/ red edge, back of flower is also red, outstanding flower, dark green foliage

Vine Mount - LM, 5', -16, Vivid reddish purple w/ yellow blotch, dome shaped truss, 14 flowers, broad upright plant

Westbury > - M, 3', -5, Pink, Dexter



Weston - ML, 5', -10, Rose w/gold spotting, 10 flowers per truss, leaves 4 1/2", Dexter

Southeastern Chapter
**AMERICAN
 RHODODENDRON
 SOCIETY**



Application for Membership

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____
 Zip _____
 Telephone _____
 Fax _____ E-mail _____

MEMBERSHIPS ARE ON A CALENDAR YEAR BASIS. 18 months for new members joining after April 1st. New _____ Renewal _____

Membership dues include chapter and national membership, and the *ARS Journal*.

- Individual.....\$35.00
- Family.....40.00
- Commercial/Corporate.....90.00
- Sustaining.....50.00
- Sponsoring.....100.00
- Life.....1,000.00

Send this form with your check payable to 'SE-ARS' to:

Billy Joyner, Treasurer, SE-ARS

Welcome and Thank you for joining the...

**Southeastern Chapter
 AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY**

**USE THIS FORM TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
 OR GIVE IT TO A FRIEND TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO JOIN OUR GROUP.**

September Meeting Well Attended

The new SE-ARS season was kicked off with 30 people attending to hear Bill Klippel tell about his trip to New Zealand last year. He shared many photos of unusual rock formations and of course, the beautiful rhododendrons in the Deniden and Christ Church Botanical Gardens. He told us that there are no native rhododendrons or azaleas in New Zealand, but there are a great many native birds. His presentation was most enjoyable.

Don Johnson showed examples of rhododendron plants that are dying due to the bark split caused by the '07 spring frost', borers and drought. He also demonstrated how to loosen the roots of a root bound potted plant when transplanting.



Ray Head showed a variety of Viburnum with beautiful red berries; a Jerusalem artichoke (sunflower) that's blooming now; and a September Gem deciduous Holly with red berries.

There were 90 deciduous azalea plants available from the NC Mountain Horticultural Research Station as a result of the SE-ARS supported



New members, Suzanne Woosley, Cathy Davis and Georgia Burson were delighted with the free plants they could take home.

project, on how to root native azaleas, conducted by Dr. Anthony LeBude. They were given away, 3 to each member present.

Jim Wagner reminded us, if we pay our dues on or before the October meeting our name will be

put in a drawing at the Christmas meeting for a year's free membership.

Aaron Cook suggested that we put in to host an ARS national convention. The last time we hosted one was in 1994. We have an excellent site here and a good number of people willing to help. Don Johnson said we have a good source of plants we could sell. Ray said that we have money for the up front costs. This will be discussed further and **voted on by the membership at the October meeting.**

Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society

Officers and Directors

President: Don Johnson

Treasurer: Billy Joyner

Vice President: Tami Wagner

Past President: Bill Klippel

Secretary/Editor: Marilyn Haynes

Directors 'til 2008: Ray Head
Patricia Phillips, April Sanborn

Directors 'til 2009: Leon Pace
Don Haynes, Jim Wagner



It's Time to renew your membership with SE-ARS!

Save us postage and send your dues check,
now, to our Treasurer, Billy Joyner,
address above.

See membership form on page 5.

Those paid by the October 19 meeting will
have their name in a drawing for a one year's
free membership. Drawing will be at the
Christmas party on December 7, 2008.

:



**Deadline for copy for the November
-December Blue Ridge Review is
November 2.**

Upcoming events!

**October 19, 2:00 PM - Plants for
Members.** St. John in the Wilderness
Church, Flat Rock, NC. **BRING YOUR
PLANT LIST FROM INSIDE THIS
NEWSLETTER.**

**December 7 - Christmas Party & Ray
Head will speak on Hollies.** St. John in the
Wilderness Church, Flat Rock, NC.

***** 2009 *****

**February 15, 2:00 PM - Sieglinde
Anderson, Landscape Architect.** St. John
in the Wilderness Church, Flat Rock, NC.

**March 21, 1:00 PM - Annual Meeting
Banquet and Plant Auction.** Speaker. **Dr.
Joe Coleman**, rhododendron specialist.
The Chariot, Hendersonville, NC.