THE BLUE RIDGE REVIEW

Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society

Encouragement of the culture of Rhododendrons

January-February 2009

Rhododendron and Rock Garden Design

Sunday, February 15, 2:00 PM Saint John in the Wilderness, Flat Rock, NC

SIEGLINDE ANDERSON, ASLA, and SE-ARS member, will speak on designing a garden with rhododendrons and rocks. Her aim is to present the various options we have today in defining a theme for your own garden by understanding principles of



garden design that deal with the arrangement of form, color, texture and scale. To illustrate those principles, and to serve as inspiration, a number of gardens, both public and private, here and abroad, will be shown and discussed via a slide presentation.

Sieglinde has a BS in Landscape Architecture from the School of Architecture at Ohio State University, and is a Registered Landscape Architect. She has 27 years experience in private practice designing gardens, municipal and corporate headquarters as well as public gardens at Arboretums. She is listed in the Smithsonian Archives of American Gardens and has work published in various books and magazines.

She has completed gardens in seven states. Her institutional work includes a master plan for a garden & public spaces at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum in Morristown, New Jersey. Recently she completed the design and planting plans for the

For a **color** copy of the Blue Ridge Review, please send an e-mail to mphaynes@juno.com.

Dickinson Holly Garden at The North Carolina Arboretum at Asheville. In 2007 she won a competition for design of a fountain and rain garden at a high end development in Asheville.

Her work
has been
greatly
influenced by
her
European
roots as well
as extensive
world
travels,
giving her



wide exposure to diverse architectures, gardens and natural landscapes.

Don Johnson will also do a short educational presentation on Fertilizer at the Feb. Meeting.

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



SIEGLINDE ANDERSON, ASLA LANDSCAPE & GARDEN DESIGN

web site: www.sieglindeanderson.com

Nearly 40 Attend Christmas Party

A bounty of delicious food, beautiful decorations, a wonderful program about a favorite Christmas plant and many great door prizes all came together to create sheer enjoyment for nearly 40 people at the holiday festivities at St. John in the Wilderness on December 7, 2008.



Abundant favorite dishes brought by our members to share, along with the turkey and ham provided by



Rose Johnson and Tami Wagner, made a hearty meal for all to enjoy. Linda Hendricks couldn't wait to taste Glenn O'Sheal's famous cheesecake.

Our own Ray Head, known to most of us as an expert on Holly, presented a wonderful program about the Ilex genus, showing many different varieties

which he grows at his home in Rutherforton, NC. Ray is currently President of the Holly Society of America.



Following the program the drawing from those names who renewed their membership for 2009 by the October meeting, was made for the free one-year membership. The lucky winners this year were Jean and Leon Pace. Congratulations!



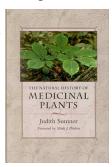
April's Book Review The Natural History of Medicinal Plants

by Judith Sumner

Any one who has ever been interested in the role plants play in medicine will find this book an interesting read. The author, Dr. Judith Sumner, teaches botany, medicinal botany, and ethnobotany at the Arnold Arboretum, Garden in the Woods(the botanic garden of the New England Wildflower Society), and Assumption College.

The opening chapter touches on the historical use of medicinal plants in early Europe, the medieval period, herbs and herbalists during the Renaissance, to the present and prospects for future discoveries in this field. Other chapters explore the discoveries of various plant compounds, their uses, as well as why plants produce them in the first place. A very interesting chapter describes how birds, primates, and elephants seem to recognize and use plants for

medicinal purposes. As an example, chimpanzees eat the plant *Aspilia mossambicensis*, not for nutrition, but rather because it contains compounds which kill viruses, fungi, and parasitic worms at a time of the year when these problems are at their peak. Many other examples follow.



A great portion of the book is devoted to the plants which have been used to treat the various diseases and afflictions of mankind. Quite a bit of information on the most effective herbs used for self medication is also included. The book concludes with a thoughtful look at the use of and search for new medicinal plants for aiding humankind, while also preserving the planet's biodiversity, through plant and habitat conservation, as well as through botanic gardens, seed banks, and cultivation.

This book is illustrated throughout with many black and white line drawings and color photographs. This book is available through our Chapter at the discounted price of \$17.00.

2012 ARS National Convention

from Aaron Cook, Chairman

Greetings to Everyone in SE-ARS. I hope you had a wonderful holiday season. If you have received your Winter issue of the Society Journal, check out the Society News section, ARS Calendar. It is now officially in print and has been widely distributed that SE-ARS is hosting the 2012 Convention. I guess this means we better get busy. Some of you may be asking, 'What can we possibly do this far out?' While it is true that a lot of the detailed planning will have to wait, there's still plenty to be done. We need to set a date, find appropriate facilities, and propagate a lot of plants. So we need to go ahead and form a few committees and get them working. Marilyn has graciously volunteered to chair the facilities committee, but needs some help. I think we all should be in on the date so we should decide that at the next

That leaves plants. Any volunteers? I was hoping we could tour some local gardens this spring and tag desirable plants for propagation. Then we could



meeting.

send the cuttings to a nursery for propagation. Basically do a much bigger version of our plants for members program. Also it would

be great if everyone who plans to help out, would go ahead and join the SE-ARS Yahoo Group at the following address.

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SE-ARS/

SE-ARS Convention 2012 Why?

by Aaron Cook

As I prepared for a fall Scout outing to Panthertown Valley, and made the two hour drive to the entrance, thoughts of the convention would periodically pop into my head. The biggest question that kept coming to mind was Why? Why do a convention? The more I thought of it the more I realized that the seeds for this future convention were sown many years ago and carefully grown and cultivated just like one of our prize rhododendron seedlings.

The seed for this convention was sown back in 1989. I was working at Mayland Community College and met a Dr. David Johnston from Charlotte. David had a summer place on

Grandmother Mountain and came over to Mayland to take my Summer Flora Class. We became friends and he introduced me to one of his neighbors on the mountain, Dr. Herbert Hechenbleikner. Dr. Heck, as everyone called him, introduced me to Larry Mellichamp and I became a member of the Piedmont Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society.



For several years I casually attended events with the Chapter as my family and work responsibilities grew. One of the most memorable events for me was the 1994 Convention hosted by the Southeastern Chapter of the ARS. I did not stay overnight but instead chose to drive the 60 miles from home each day. I realize now that I missed most of the fellowshipping, but it was still a great experience.

In about 1998 a student of mine Teresa Ford who worked for Yadkin Valley Nursery invited me to go on a spring garden tour hosted by several Piedmont Chapter members. On this trip I met Ed Collins and Bob Stelloh. They invited me to attend a SE-ARS meeting in Flat Rock to here a talk by the owner of We-Du Nursery, Dennis Neimeyer. At the meeting I met many of you and realized that the Southeastern Chapter was a very active and friendly group of fellow plant enthusiasts. Several meetings later I joined SE-ARS in order to become involved in their many activities. I would come to meetings when I could and attend other events like the flower show and Banquet.

In late 2000 or early 2001, I attended a meeting at Ed Collins's home to organize an Azalea Society Chapter. That same year the new Vaseyi Chapter hosted the annual ASA convention in Asheville. I made many new and lasting friendships. It was like

(continued on Pg. 4)

New Treasurer

We are sorry that Billy Joyner resigned as our Treasurer, but are overjoyed that John Brown accepted the nomination and was unanimously voted



in by the Board of Directors.
John has been a member of
SE-ARS for many years, and is a
past President. In fact, John is
currently the national President
of the Azalea Society of
America. He lives with his wife
Carolyn in Cleveland, SC, on
five acres of Azaleas,
Rhododendrons, and many other
plants.

2009 ARS National Convention, Everett Washington

Don Smart, Cascade Chapter, Convention Chairman wants all our chapter folks to know they are invited to their ARS 2009 **Rhododendron Rendezvous** in Everett, WA, just 30 minutes north of Seattle. The

dates are April 29 to May 3, 2009. The ARS Board meeting is on Wednesday, the 29th and tours start on Thursday, the 30th. There will be a half day of educational workshops on Saturday.



Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden

Tours include the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden, Bellevue Botanical Garden, Meerkerk Rhododendron Gardens on Whidbey Island, as well as many spectacular private gardens.

For more details, please see their web site at www.ars-2009-convention.org. There is on-line registration with credit payment available. The registration form and additional details are available in the Winter 2009 ARS Journal.

Plants needed for Silent Auction

Do you have plants to donate for the Spring Banquet silent auction? Call Tami Wagner, 828-696-8172.

The Annual Meeting Banquet and Silent Auction is on Saturday, March 21, at 1:00 PM, at the Chariot in Hendersonville, NC. The speaker will be Dr. Joe Coleman, rhododendron specialist and SE-ARS Associate Life member from Lithonia, GA.

Why? (continued from pg. 3)

a huge family reunion and I was slowly but surely making the gradual transition from a quiet person hovering on the fringe of the activities to a person willing to take a more active role. You could say that the 2001 Convention was a life altering experience for me. I think back fondly to that convention and am always a little sad that I did not spend more time with Augie Kehr, Dick Brooks, Fred & Jean Minch and Deni Stelloh.

I am grateful for the opportunities that being a member of SE-ARS and the Vaseyi Chapter of the ASA have offered me. I have attended every ASA Convention since 2001 and in 2002 and 2006 the conventions were joint affairs with the ARS. If you have attended ARS and ASA conventions in the past you know that there is a subtle difference. An Azalea Society Convention is a little less formal and tends to be a little more relaxed. With the planning and implementing of the 2008 ASA convention I realized that we had the perfect combination of location, gardens, and people to put on one of the best ARS conventions ever. With everyone's help, we can put on a relaxing and informal 2012 ARS convention or as I prefer family reunion. We may even invite the world champion Mars Hill Clogging team over to help us kick up our heels.

I am grateful to the SE-ARS BOD and to Ted Stecki the Eastern VP for having enough confidence in us to award us this opportunity. I am looking forward to working with everyone and believe that hosting a convention will excite and invigorate our chapter for the future. Who knows, there may be a young attendee in the crowd that will one day be nurtured into blooming the flower of a SE-ARS 2030 convention.

AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY Southeastern Chapter Welcome and Thank you for joining the...

Application for Membership RHODODENDRON E-mail Southeastern Chapter

AMERICAN

SOCIETY

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

Membership dues include chapter and national

membership, and the ARS Journal

......\$35.00

....40.00

Individual..... Family.....

Commercial/Corporate...... Sustaining.....

.....100.00 Sponsoring.....

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

John Brown

GIVE THIS FORM TO A FRIEND TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO JOIN OUR GROUP.

Tribute to Henry Muntz

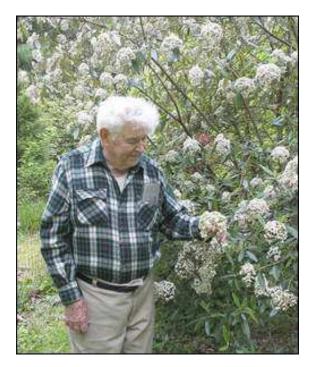
City/State_ Address Name_

Telephone

We were saddened to learn that Henry Muntz is having to leave his one-acre garden in Horse Shoe to be near his step son in Florida, and won't be renewing his SE-ARS membership.

We learned some about him from an Article published May 2, 2005, in the Hendersonville Times-News. "At age 91, Henry Muntz says he's as appreciative of plants and flowers as he was when he started growing them 30 years ago. A look around his landscape near Horse Shoe confirms this long-term dedication. Few local gardens can equal his collection of rare specimens or the harmony of the total. 'I don't remember names as well as I did,' he said, 'but I'm just as impressed with nature's beautiful kaleidoscope now as I ever was."

"He said he has a broad interest in horticulture, but his main focus in recent years has been on rhododendrons and azaleas, especially those adapted to the local climate. ... He's been a member of the American Rhododendron Society for more than 20 years and has served as a judge for local shows. He has collected a lot of special varieties and developed several himself, none of which he registered or tried to market commercially.



"Muntz has grown most of the ornamental plants during his 15 years here and the previous 15 in northern New Jersey, where he spent most of his life. He worked as a machinist for both General Electric and Westinghouse and, during World War II, at the Army Arsenal in Piccatini, N.J."

Henry was the Flower Show Chairman in 1989.

Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society

Officers and Directors

Vice President: Tami Wagner Past President: Bill Klippel

Secretary/Editor: Marilyn Haynes Directors 'til 2009: Leon Pace

Don Haynes, Jim Wagner

Directors 'til 2010: Ray Head Patricia Phillips, April Sanborn



Do you have any nice plants for our silent auction that will be on March 21st? If so, please let Tami and Jim Wagner know. Phone and e-mail above.



2009 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The SE-ARS **2009** Directory will be published this winter and included as a supplement to the <u>next issue</u> of the BRR. If you have a change of address, phone number or e-mail, please notify Marilyn Haynes, number and e-mail above, before February 10.

Deadline for copy for the February Blue Ridge Review is February 12.

Mark Your Calendar Now!

* * * Happy New Year - 2009 * * *

January - Stay warm, no meeting.

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

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

April 25 & 26, Annual Truss Show North Carolina Arboretum, Asheville, NC.

April & May - Garden Tours to be announced.

May 7, Thursday, evening - Dr. Kathy Kron - "Native azaleas: Identification, Distribution and Their Relationship to Other Rhododendrons". North Carolina Arboretum, Asheville, NC. Public invited.

June - Picnic. date and location TBA.