

THE BLUE RIDGE REVIEW

Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society



Encouragement of the culture of Rhododendrons

June-July 2010

Annual Meeting, Auction and Picnic in July this Year!

Sunday, July 18, Date for This Year's Picnic

The beautiful yard and garden of Melody and Doley Bell is still the site for the annual picnic, but they wanted to have it in July, rather than June, because there will be more in bloom then.

We will have our fabulous auction of **plants** from our own gardens, with John Brown, auctioneer, so start potting things up as you thin out your plants.

The Chapter will provide drinks and utensils, the rest is provided by each of you. So **bring your favorite dish** to share. Also **bring a chair** or two.

The Bell's place is in Hendersonville, NC. Since parking is limited, please park along the road, leaving room for other residents to get through.



Doley Bell in his woodland garden, spring 2010

2012 Convention Planning Meeting, June 27

Our next 2012 Convention Planning Meeting will be on Sunday, June 27, at 2:00 PM, at the Bullington Center in Hendersonville, NC, in connection with the Vaseyi Chapter, ASA, cutting exchange meeting. Of course any member of SE-ARS who is interested in helping to plan the convention, or just wants to hear what's going on, is welcome to attend. Aaron Cook, Convention Chairman has said that the primary area for decision making this time will be the Garden Tours, although other areas will also be discussed. Please bring your ideas for tour locations and lunch arrangements.



The convention will be May 4-7, 2012 at the beautiful Crowne Plaza Golf and Tennis Resort in Asheville, NC. We are planning for 300 people plus or minus.

We'd like to find someone who would head up a photography show. Resources are available.

**Notice from John Brown, 2012 Convention
Plant Sale Chairman.....**

**Gigantic Greenhouse
Sale**

**Come One- Come All
Saturday, June 19, 2010**

9 am until 4 pm



Hundreds (well over one, and less than two) of beautiful mature named deciduous azaleas up for sale to members of Vaseyi and Southeastern Chapters at a fantastic give-away price of \$6 each. (Non-members pricing considerably higher and still a bargain- \$12 each)

These are the plants provided to us as stock plants for cuttings to be sold at the 2012 Joint ARS/ASA Convention. Cuttings have been taken and now we have the opportunity to put these plants in our gardens and build a fund for Convention expenses. The following plants are available in variable quantities from 1 to over 30.

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Admiral Semmes | Great Balls of Fire |
| R. arborescens | High Tide |
| Aromi Sunny-side-up | Hotspur Yellow |
| Aromi Sunrise | Millie Mac |
| Aromi Sunstruck | Pink Carousel |
| Clearcreek | Select Yellow |
| Don's Variegated | Taylor Maid |
| Austrinum | Varnadoe's Phlox Pink |

In order to best serve our membership, I will take orders for plants via e-mail .



This is a first come/ first serve sale as long as supplies last. Special appointments can be made

subject to schedule availability and my attitude at the time.

June Trek to the Balds

June is bloom time for the native azaleas and rodos on the balds. Copper has the flames, Wyah has the arborescens, and Roan Mountain has the catawbiense, plus others.



R. arborescens on Wyah Bald

Doley Bell and Leon Pace are targeting June 15, depending on the weather, for their annual trek to Copper Bald and Pace Bald, so contact Leon, if you want to tag along with them.

John Brown says. "There will be people at the balds the week of June 20-25. Who when where, I have no clue at the moment." So contact him, to see about joining Don Hyatt and others from different ARS chapters and other parts of the country for Wyah and or Hooper Bald. You never know who you might meet up there at bloom time.

Rich Becker's Linwood Hardy Gardenia Wins Best of Show

The winners' table at this year's flower show was topped with a beautiful evergreen azalea called Linwood Hardy Gardenia, grown by Richard



Becker. Other's on the winners table were: From 'Lepidote Rhododendrons,' Doley and Melody Bell's R. carolinianum x R. augustin; from 'Elepidote' Richard Becker's Janet Blair; from 'Deciduous Azaleas,' Doley and Melody Bell's Aromi Sunrise; from 'Grown from Seed by Exhibitor,' Richard Becker's Janet Rhea x (Target x Orange Beauty); and from our newest category, 'Miniature Truss or Spray,' Don Haynes' Kiusianum. Our overall point winner was Doley and Melody Bell with 126, followed by Rich Becker with 82 and Don Haynes with 51. There were 173 entries.



The well attended annual Rhododendron Truss show at the NC Arboretum on May 1 and 2 was very efficiently run by Glenn O'Sheal.

Don Johnson sacrificed entering his beautiful rhododendrons this year to conduct a fabulous plant sale on the Education Center porch. This was a very popular feature of this year's show, where more than 140 unique azalea and rhododendron plants were sold,!



Asheville Gardens Beautiful and Educational

The Dexter rhododendrons at the Charles Owen garden in the Biltmore Forest area of Asheville, NC, on May 6th were at peak bloom!



The evergreen azaleas at The Biltmore Estate were just a little past peak, but there were still many beautiful deciduous azaleas in full bloom. Our tour guide, Susanne, was very knowledgeable of the native deciduous azaleas and the history of the gardens was fascinating! There were 18 or 20



people there for this joint event for SE-ARS and the Vaseyi Chapter, ASA. The weather was perfect!

Haag Garden a Memorable Experience

The Haag garden was a Mothers' Day excursion for some 15 SE-ARS members. Curt Haag had prepared a welcome for us by spray painting a trail



Don Haynes in the Haag "seedling" garden

to follow through the meadow, seedling garden, wooded area and display garden near the house. We saw a gold mine of many gorgeous hybrid rhododendrons, which represent a

long legacy of skilled hybridizing over many years. The extensive wild flowers on the property are quite spectacular as well.

Very Successful SE-ARS Plant Sale at Garden Jubilee



It was reported that over 40,000 people attended the Hendersonville Garden Jubilee Festival on Main Street, on Memorial Day

weekend. Nine hard working volunteers believe it, especially those who worked Saturday morning. People were rushing to each get the best plant at our booth on the west side of the 100 block. The orange flame azaleas were by far the most sought after, and we were sold out of them before 1:00 PM on Saturday. We could have sold many more if we had them. The natural hybrid deciduous azaleas were a close second, followed by the arborescens. The viscosum and evergreen azaleas as well as the large leaf "Scarlet Romance" were less popular. The weather was perfect on Saturday, overcast on Sunday, with rain after 4:00, so we broke down early, as the crowd also dwindled. We really appreciated the canopy which Bill Klippel loaned us,



Don Haynes and April Sanborn at Vivian's

both for shade and shelter from the rain.

The week before, a group of us went to East Fork Nursery in Sevierville, TN, better known as "Vivian's," to get plants for the sale,

which Vivian Abney had personally selected for us.

We also went to Meadowbrook Nursery in Marion, where Jamie Oxley also provided us with some plants.



Dave Carter loading plants into Marilyn's car at Meadowbrook.

We didn't get any new members, but we did a little educating, answering many people's questions, passing out Planting Guides and other literature, and we raised over \$450.00 for our chapter. Many thanks to the volunteers who worked so hard.

Anne Guelker, member of Ozarks Chapter, ARS, Associate member of SE-ARS, who's retired from the publishing business and an e-mail friend of your editor, sent a number of gardening 'fillers.' This one's from Henry Mitchell's "One Man's Garden"

"It is agreeable to waddle about in one's own paradise, knowing that thousands of others have better gardens with better thises and thats, and better grown, too, and no weeds at all. To know this and grin as complacently as a terrier who just got into the devilled eggs, and to reflect that there is no garden in England or France I envy, and not one I'd swap for mine: this is the aim of gardening – not to make us complacent idiots, exactly, but to make us content and calm for a time, with sufficient energy (even after wars with bindweed) to feel an awestruck thanks to God that such happiness can exist. For a few days, of course."



**Southeastern Chapter
AMERICAN
RHODODENDRON
SOCIETY
Membership Sign-up Form**

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____
 Zip _____
 Telephone _____
 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, plus the quarterly *ARS Journal*.

- Regular.....\$40.00
- Commercial.....90.00
- Sustaining.....75.00
- Sponsoring.....150.00
- Commit for Life (Individual).....1,000.00
- Commit for Life (Family).....1,500.00

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

John Brown, SE-ARS Treasurer

Welcome! ...and Thank you for joining the...

**Southeastern Chapter
AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY**

Commit for Life, Individual, is payable over a 3 year period in one increment of \$400 & two of \$300. Commit for Life, Family, is payable over a 3 year period in increments of \$500. ♥ Encourage a friend to join!

In Memorium

Arnold J. Hyde, a past Vice President of SE-ARS, died on Saturday, March 27, 2010, at Givens Estates Health Center in Asheville, where his wife Dorothy still resides. He was 95.

He was born and raised in Western NC, was a graduate of Western Carolina University and did graduate work at UNC Chapel Hill. He taught at schools in Stecoah, Robbinsville and Polk County where he also coached girls basketball. He was a social worker in Graham County, and during World War II, worked for the federal government in New Orleans. He was a field representative with the N.C. State Commission for the Blind in Buncombe County for 23 years.

As a dedicated Lion, he served in many capacities and received many prestigious awards for his work with the Lions Clubs. His avocation was developing hybrid rhododendron and his award winning azalea and rhododendron gardens were enjoyed by many people. The International Rhododendron Society toured his gardens on Queen Road, Candler, where he lived with his wife and family for 41 years before moving to Givens Estates in 2005.

Here's Ray Head's reflections:
 "Arnold was a member of our chapter for at least 45 years. He would always bring beautiful flowers to the show and won many ribbons. I know that he took a big part in the Lions club in Haywood County and conducted rhododendron plant sales every spring to raise money for that organization."



"Mr. Hyde's Dexter Wheatley Rhododendron won the Best of Show award in the 1987 Southeastern Regional Truss Show. Mr. Hyde has developed a number of Hybrids."

A 1987 article in the Asheville Citizen Times states, "His garden contains a number of hybrids which Mrs. Hyde developed. 'She's the propagator,' he said. 'I just plant them and take care of them.'"

Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society

Officers and Directors Treasurer: John Brown

President: Doley Bell

Vice President: Georgia Burson **Secretary/Editor:** Marilyn Haynes

Past President: Don Johnson **Directors 'til 2010:** Aaron Cook,
Ray Head, April Sanborn

Directors 'til 2011: Don
Haynes, Glenn O'Sheal, Leon
Pace



Haag Hybrid

Welcome New Members:

Larry and Ellen Hull
Asheville, NC 28803



Winners - See Inside



**Deadline for the September Blue Ridge
Review is August 15.**

Mark Your Calendar, Now!

June - Hikes to the Balds to see the native Rhododendrons and Azaleas. Contact John Brown

June 19 - Gigantic Greenhouse Sale - Mature, named deciduous azaleas, , Cleveland, SC.

June 27, Sun., 2:00 PM - 2012 Convention Planning meeting - Bullington Center, Hendersonville, NC.

July 18, Sun., 2:00 PM, Annual Meeting and Picnic- Home of Melody and Doley Bell, Hendersonville, NC; Bring plants to auction, dish to share, and chair(s).

September 26, Sun., 2:00 PM - Alison Arnold, Garden Design - Joint meeting with Vaseyi Chapter, ASA.

October 17, Sun., 2:00 PM, Plants for Members - St. John in the Wilderness Parish Hall, Flat Rock, NC.

Early December - Christmas Party