

# THE BLUE RIDGE REVIEW

*Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society*



*Encouragement of the culture of Rhododendrons*

**July-August 2011**

**It's a Picnic! It's a Plant Auction! It's the Annual Meeting!  
with election and installation of officers and board.**

**--- Sunday July 10 ---**

And it's at Doley and Melody Bell's beautiful yard!  
It's sharing time! By now, you will have already



scoped out your yard or garden for the plants you no longer need, that other members are just dying to have!

Bring them along with your favorite food specialty to share with your fellow food loving members. And bring your wallet! Be prepared to bid, bid and bid!

John Brown has offered his "meager services as auctioneer." But, he says, "Some of you must offer to bid on the plants. At least, more often than last year!"



Doley says he will sweep off the deck, and provide drinks, ice, cups, plates, forks and napkins, but you will need to bring lawn chairs. Hopefully the umbrellas won't be needed this year, but don't count on it.

So.... Here's what you need to do.



1. Check your calendar and cancel everything else you might have on July 10, 2011.
2. Dig up or separate some fabulous plants from your yard.

3. Whip up that favorite specialty food dish.

4. Be sure there's plenty of cash in your wallet, or bring the check book.



5. Load the chairs, plants, food, and money into the car.

6. Drive to Hendersonville. If you don't know how to find it, Google Maps it. (...or call Doley)

7. Too many steps??? Just come and have fun!



## **Nominating Committee Report**

from Leon Pace & Don Haynes

**President:** Jackson McCarter

**Vice President:**

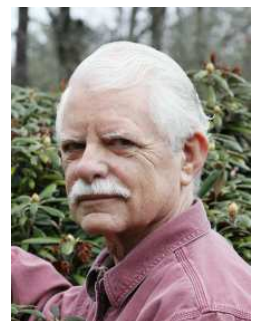
**Secretary/Editor:** Marilyn Haynes

**Treasurer:** John Brown

**Past President:** Doley Bell

**Directors 'til 2012:** Aaron Cook, April Sanborn, Jean Pace

**Directors 'til 2013:** Glenn O'Sheal, Ray Head.



## Leon and Jean Pace's Flowers Top the Spring Truss Show



"The legacy of Augie Kehr lives on. This was vividly demonstrated at the Spray and Truss Show this week end, as one of Augie's unnamed Evergreen Azalea Seedlings was awarded best in show. This beautiful spray was shown by Leon and Jean Pace. This plant was given to Leon along with several others from Augie's seedling bed about fifteen years ago," wrote Leon Pace after having two winners on the table. Jean said, "After all these years, we've never had anything on the winners' table before, and now we have two!" Their "Currahee" which means 'Stand Alone' won "Best" in the Deciduous Azalea Section.



Another first time winner was Courtland White with his Hybrid Elepidote, "Dr. John", from a plant he bought at our 2007 Plants for members event. Others on the winners table were Richard Becker's "Scintillation X Kulu Foliage," and Ross Miller's seedling, "Virginia."



This year, for the first time, we tried a People's Choice activity, which engaged the public to really look at each truss and spray. People voting had to go to the education display to deposit their ballot,

thereby reading and taking materials. Handing out the ballots made for an excellent excuse to speak with the guests, many of whom asked questions and engaged in more conversation than they might have without this activity. And it was fun to see what the people really liked best.

Elepidotes were the clear winners among the people, although some wanted to choose one favorite rhodo and one azalea. Our ballot only offered one choice.

The People's choice winners were:

- First place was Ross Miller's Acclaim
- Second place was Ross Miller's John Wister.
- Third place was Boris Bauer's Red Wonder.
- Fourth place was Rich Becker's St. James.
- Tied for fifth place were April Sanborn's Ben Morrison, and Jackson McCarter's Briars Red.

All of these winners were just as beautiful at the end of the show as they were at the beginning. We estimated around 400 people attended the show.



*Ross Miller's John Wister*



*Boris Bauer's Red Wonder*



*Many thanks to Glenn O'Sheal for heading up another outstanding flower show!*

## 2012 Convention Room Rates Reduced!

### Planning Committee Moves Ahead

The 2012 Convention Planning Committee was concerned about the cost of attending this event, until the



Crowne Plaza Resort cut our contracted room rates! Now the rates will be: Double-\$99.00, King-\$109.00, Executive Suite-\$119.00,

Loft Suite-\$169.00. These rates are good for 5 days before and after the convention, so start planning your "Appalachian Spring" vacation now! We can now access a customized web site for room reservations at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/ARS2012> or call in for reservations to 888-233-9527, and mention "ARS-ASA Convention." To reserve a villa: studio (\$109), one bedroom (\$129), or two bedroom (\$159), please call 800-733-3211. The link will not work to reserve a villa.

The Convention Planning Committee has had two recent meetings over lunch at Kelsey's in Hendersonville.

Awaiting some details, the registration form is not yet available, but here's what we know so far about the schedule: The committee will be setting up for the



gigantic plant sale, flower show and photo contest on Thursday, May 3, the ARS and ASA Boards will meet on Friday, May 4, with a Welcome Reception and Mini-Trade Show in the afternoon/evening. Fabulous garden tours will be on Saturday and Sunday with a post convention tour on Monday. There might even be a pre convention tour. We're hoping to show our guests the spectacular native azaleas in bloom if the weather will just cooperate. The ARS Banquet will be on Saturday night and the ASA Banquet on Sunday night. Everyone will want to go to both, of course, regardless of your membership status, because we all like to eat, right?

Cathy White, Cathy Davis and Sieglinde Anderson, are gathering local tourist info and a list of special places of

interest to rhody/azalea fans. Bob Stelloh is building a convention web site with convention details, including garden pictures and descriptions, speaker bios, etc. plus links to other area attractions to entice our out of town guests to extend their vacation in this beautiful part of the world.

The tour committee, with Doley Bell as chairman, is doing all they can to ensure that everyone will be able to go on all the tours, by not scheduling simultaneous tours. Lunches will be catered buffets making every effort to avoid long waiting lines. And there will be bottled water on all the busses. The list of gardens is longer than time will allow, so many details still need to be worked out.

We will have 5 or 6 good speakers, some local, some from far away, on a variety of interesting topics, and maybe even a workshop or two.

The gigantic plant sale is being chaired by John Brown, with Leon Pace as co-chair.



We're not sure how many plants there will be, but it's probably in excess of 4,000 rhododendrons, azaleas and companion plants! A color coded pricing system will be used with separate check out stations for cash and credit. A shipping company will take care of packing and shipping of plants, and phyto certificates will be available for our international buyers. Work assignments include, labeling, setup, unloading, bagging, cashiers, floor walkers, re-stockers and cleanup. And **please start saving all your plastic grocery bags.** OK, John. We have our marching orders!

April Sanborn will take care of the sale of other items, such as books, shirts, possibly even pen sets made of rhododendron wood!

Yes, there **will** be a judged flower show, chaired by Glenn O'Sheal, so start thinking about how you'll transport those perfect trusses or sprays. And there **will** be a photo contest, chaired by Jackson McCarter with Courtland White, co-chair.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for companies who wish to meet and greet current and potential customers and get their name and logo on some of our printed materials. Contact Aaron Cook, [acook@cccti.edu](mailto:acook@cccti.edu), or Marilyn Haynes, [mphaynes@juno.com](mailto:mphaynes@juno.com), if interested, or know of someone who might be interested.

# Blooms in the Wild

I received an e-mail from some folks in Miami, requesting information on the expected blooming of Catawba Rhododendrons in our area, time-wise and quality-wise, around May 23-25? "We're also interested in the R. Vaseyi, Mountain Laurel and Flame Azalea." the writer said.



Mountain Laurel on the Foothills Parkway in TN.

I sent an e-mail to our SE-ARS Members telling of the request and asking for any information or advice. I received recommendations from 6 of our

members, which included Craggy Gardens; flames (orange) and the end of the vaseyi (pink) on the Blue Ridge Parkway between Asheville and Cherokee, flame azaleas may be starting at lower elevation; Blue Ridge Parkway from Asheville to Mt. Mitchell; The North Carolina Arboretum for Gregory Bald azaleas, some Flame and some of the Cumberland hybrids; higher areas such as Mount Mitchell, Mt. Pisgah,



Catawba at Crabtree Falls Visitors Center



Catawba at Linn Cove Visitors Center

Balsam Mountain; and the Foothills Parkway in eastern TN for Mountain Laurel.

I'm passing along some of the thanks



Flame at Linnville Falls Visitors Center

I received from Barry Moss, a College professor at Miami Dade College, who with his wife, Judy, was traveling to New York to visit family.

Barry expressed his appreciation by sending an almost daily travelog with descriptions and even a few pictures of the beautiful places they went and the blooms they saw. They took lots of time, and did a little hiking along the way as well as taking over 1,000 pictures.



Judy and blooms at Mabry Mill.

Here's a sampling.

We discovered on their way back, that they planned to arrive at Roan Mountain the very same day we were planning our return trip there, since last years blooms were so sparse.



Barry also told me of some other resources he used in his travels that I thought I'd share with my readers, so we can give a more in depth answer the next time we're asked.

### Sources of Native Bloom Information:

Day Hikes of the Smokies, by Carson Brewer

Price Park Project Office: 828-963-5911.

Blue Ridge Parkway Hotline: US National Park Service: 828-298-0398.

US Forest Service for Mt. Rogers NRA: 800-628-7202.

NC Forest Service for Roan Mountain Rhododendron Gardens: 828-682-6146.

Blue Ridge Parkway in Vinton, VA: 540-767-2492 ext. 16 for the Interpretive Specialist or [Peter\\_Givens@nps.gov](mailto:Peter_Givens@nps.gov).



**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!*

## Lots of Plants Sold at the Garden Jubilee Festival



We started out on Memorial Day weekend, with 85 Native Azaleas from East Fork Nursery, 21 Rhododendrons from Plants for Members and a large blooming pink Evergreen Azalea

from Growing Concern. The perfect weather both days made for enthusiastic crowds and brisk sales. After expenses, we cleared \$431.33 for SE-ARS.

Many thanks to Bill Klippel for loaning us the canopy, Dave Carter and Don Haynes for helping to set up and take down everything, plus our wonderful sales people including Sieglinde Anderson, Frances Jones, Claudine and Jeff Miller, Doley Bell, and Leon Pace. It's enjoyable work, and it gets our plants and educational information out to the public. *Marilyn Haynes.*

*Our deepest sympathies and prayers go out to Aaron Cook, and his family, including two granddaughters, Claire 13 and Emily 11, in the tragic loss of Aaron's daughter, Kim.*

**RED ALERT!** SE-ARS needs a Vice President/Program Chairman. If you would like to do it, or know of someone who would, please contact Leon Pace or Don Haynes. We have a list of many possible programs/speakers, many are our own members, so it's not that difficult. It just takes a few phone calls. And the rewards are many!



## Southeastern Chapter of the

### Officers and Directors

**President:** Doley Bell

**Treasurer:** John Brown

**Vice President:** Georgia Burson

**Secretary/Editor:** Marilyn Haynes

**Past President:** Don Johnson

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

**Directors 'til 2012:** Aaron Cook,  
April Sanborn, Jackson McCarter



**MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL**  
**GET 1 1/4 YEARS**  
**FOR THE PRICE OF ONE**  
**JOIN NOW!**

*"Appalachian Spring"*

**2012 ARS-ASA  
International Convention**

**May 3-7, 2012  
Asheville, NC**

*Hosted by the Southeastern Chapter, ARS  
and Vaseyi Chapter, ASA*

Save all your plastic grocery bags for the  
Gigantic Plant Sale.

Come to the next planning meeting at 1:00 PM  
on Sunday, July 10, at Doley Bell's.

### Mark Your Calendar, Now!

**July 10, Sunday, 2:00 PM - Picnic, Plant Auction and Annual Meeting/Election and Installation of Officers**, at the Bell's, Hendersonville, NC.

**September 18, Sun. - TBD**, St. John in the Wilderness Parish Hall.

**October 16, Sun. - Annual Plants for Members**, St. John in the Wilderness Parish Hall.

**December 4, Sun. - Christmas Party**, St. John in the Wilderness Parish Hall.

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

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