

# THE BLUE RIDGE REVIEW

*Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society*



*Encouragement of the culture of Rhododendrons*

March 2011

## 14th Annual Banquet, Silent Auction, "Brim Hybrids" Saturday, March 19, 12:30 PM

Our annual banquet is Saturday, March 19, at the Chariot, corner of Church and 7th Ave. in Hendersonville. We'll set up from 10:00 AM, social hour and silent auction begins at 12:30 PM, lunch will be served at 1:30 PM, then our speaker. The price is \$22.50 per person, all inclusive, to be sent to John Brown no later than Monday, March 14th.

Our speaker is Stan Southerland of Chapel Hill who will tell us about **"Delbert Brim's Nursery and Hybridizing Program."** (See *JARS 2010*, p.74)

Stan was born and raised in Brevard NC. He spent his youth fishing and hiking throughout Western North Carolina. After graduating from Western Carolina University with a BS in Biology he relocated to Chapel Hill NC, where he worked in various areas of biological research. At the end of 2009 after 25 years with UNC/Chapel Hill, he took a partial retirement. Meanwhile, he and his wife Carolyn, had purchased a home just outside Chapel Hill with a sloping, heavily wooded, rocky lot with a good number of understory plants such as wild huckleberry, ferns, wild ginger and others. Being from Western Carolina he said to himself, "this lot needs some rhododendrons." He quickly purchased 'Roseum Elegans' and 'Mrs. E.C. Stirling', both of which continue to do well today. He became hooked on the genus



*CeeCee - 'Vulcan' X R. hyperythrum - "This was named after my wife."*

Rhododendron and joined the Piedmont Chapter of ARS, bought reference books and more rhododendrons. After discovering that a great many hybrids do not survive heat, high rainfall and all the associated diseases, he became convinced that he could breed hybrids that would survive and do well in the Piedmont of NC, using R. hyperythrum as a parent. Stan has been hybridizing with hyperythrum for over 13 years and recently named two hybrids ('CeeCee' & 'Papa Cook'). He has more hybrids that will be named shortly.



At some point he will put together a program on **his** hybridizing program, but for now, he says, "I am honored to present a program on one of the few living master Rhododendron hybridizers. That of course is Delbert Brim."

April Sanborn is in charge of the silent auction. Please contact her if you can obtain some valuable plants to

include. Don Haynes, is doing the raffle and a couple more quality items are needed.

You won't want to miss this gala event! So send your check to John, now.



*'Papa Cook' - 'Red River' X R hyperythrum - "This was named after my father in law."*

## Fellers Visited SE-ARS Feb. "Yaks" Program



We were honored to have our ARS Eastern Regional Vice President, Bruce Feller and his wife, Marianne, visit us at our February meeting. They're from Long Island, winter in Charleston, SC, and often

like to visit our lovely NC mountains.

Jack McCarter presented an outstanding program on "Yaks: History, Horticulture, and Homeland." Thirty people were there to learn about this fascinating species of rhododendron and to see Jack's beautiful pictures.



Betty Becker was our gracious hostess and served a beautiful fruit platter with a yummy dip and an out of this world Red Velvet Cake in celebration of Valentines Day.



New members, Joan and Shelby McCord attending their first SE-ARS meeting were welcomed by President Doley Bell, and given a Glen Dale Azalea. Lynn and Ruth George were welcomed back after a long absence.

John Brown, Treasurer, reported that we have a net worth of \$29,580, which increased by \$200 in the last year from dues collections and the proceeds from the Garden Jubilee. We have pre paid for our 2011 Garden Jubilee space and contributed our half of the 2012 Convention startup fund. John requested that someone step up to be a Membership Chair. Ray Head said he would think about it.

Bruce Feller thanked all those involved in the 2012 Convention planning, and expressed that ARS and ASA could be a lot closer.

Since there is no one to chair a plant sale at the NC Arboretum during our Flower Show, we will not have one, unless someone steps forward in the next month. Since the Flower Show will cost \$250 more this year, a plant sale might offset this.

## Valentine's Day Un-massacre: 2-14-2011 - Arboretum Suspends Plans to Misuse Funds to Destroy the Azaleas on the Mt. Hamilton Hillside

On Nov. 9, 2010, the National Arboretum confirmed it was destroying the azaleas on the Glenn Dale Azalea Hillside after the 2011 blooming season. (See *Blue Ridge Review: Jan-Feb 2011 p.4*)

On Feb. 14, 2011, the National Arboretum announced it was suspending actions to remove the Glenn Dale azaleas from their extensive collection of azaleas, as well as the National Boxwood and Perennial Collections.

"We have heard and appreciate the public outpouring of comments and concerns about deaccessioning the Glenn Dale azaleas and the boxwood and perennials collections." states Colien Hefferan, Director of the U.S. National Arboretum. (from [savetheazaleas.org](http://savetheazaleas.org))



**2012 ARS-ASA  
International Convention  
May 3-7, 2012  
Asheville, NC**

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

Stay up to date and see how you can help  
by joining the  
Yahoo 2012 Convention e-mail group.

Send an e-mail to Bob Stelloh, and he will  
instruct you in how to join the group.

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



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 Memoriam*

### C.D. WILLIAMS, SR.

Clarence D. Williams, Sr., 93, died January 17, 2011, at his Asheville home. He was born in Pennsylvania had a long career in Asheville with Deal Buick, Harry's Cadillac and retired as Service Manager from Skyland Automotive. Following his retirement, he concentrated on his avocation of propagating hybrid rhododendrons. His full obit can be seen at




*C.D. Williams in 2004*

<http://obit.grocefuneralhome.com/obitdisplay.html?id=887471&listing=Current>.

He and his wife Katherine joined SE-ARS in 1986. "When I first came to a Rhodo meeting, C.D. quickly sought me out to welcome me to the meeting. My first meeting was a program by Dr. Kehr explaining the possible reasons why the Red

Max on Curtis Creek was unique. A discussion of DNA made me feel like, 'boy, I am in over my head.' C.D. came up after the meeting and said "I hope you know what they were talking about cause I sure did not". C.D. continued being a friend at the meetings. After his 'Hong Cong' won best in show, he invited me to his house in Asheville to get one. He rooted a few hundred Rhodos each year to sell. While at his house a man drove into the driveway and said that the rhodo bought two years ago had died and he wanted it to be replaced free. C.D. ask how his dog was "going" and the customer said doing fine and "does his business" on the dead rhodo several times a day. C.D. selected a replacement plant at no charge but told him, 'no more replacements 'til the dog dies!.' Doley Bell

District 4 of ARS invites everyone, including non-members to Vancouver, WA, for --



### The World in Your Garden Rhododendrons 2011

65th Annual International Convention of the  
 AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY  
 May 11-15, 2011

Click here to see the website  
[www.ars2011convention.com](http://www.ars2011convention.com)

# Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society

## 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



*Mucronulatum*

---

## Welcome New Members:

Villa H. Freeman  
Hendersonville, NC  
28792

Joan & Shelby McCord  
Hendersonville, NC 28739



Emil V. Watson,

---

## 2011 Membership Directory Inside

---

**Deadline for the April Blue Ridge Review  
is March 20 .**

## Mark Your Calendar, Now!

**March 19, Sat. - Annual Banquet/Silent Auction - "Delbert Brim's Nursery and Hybridizing Program"** with Stan Southerland of Chapel Hill, NC, the Chariot, Hendersonville

**April 17, Sun. - "Beware the Green Invaders: the invasive non-native plants of WNC."** with Alan Mizeras of Horseshoe, NC, St. John in the Wilderness Parish Hall

**April 20-23, 8:30-5:30 - Garden tours at Ray Head and Wayne Hutchins,** Rutherfordton and Forest City, NC

**April 30, Sat. & May 1, Sun. - Flower Show,** NC Arboretum, Bent Creek, NC

**May 7 - Open Garden at Stellohs,** Hendersonville, NC

**May 11-15 - ARS International Convention,** Vancouver, WA.

**May 28-29, Sat. & Sun. - Hendersonville Garden Jubilee,** Main Street, Hendersonville.

**July 10 - Picnic and Plant Auction** at the Bell's, Hendersonville, NC.