

THE BLUE RIDGE REVIEW

Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society



Encouragement of the culture of Rhododendrons

December 2013-January 2014

Christmas Event at Research Station with Dr. Anthony LeBude Saturday, December 7, 11:00 AM

Our December Christmas Event will be a special treat at the Fletcher Research station: Anthony Lebude, Associate Professor, Nursery Crops and Extension Research, has invited us to the Mountain Horticultural Crops Research and Extension Center in Fletcher, to view and rate the hollies planted there. He says the hollies look the best they have ever looked since being planted!



We will meet at 11:00 AM at the Research Station. Bring a sandwich and your favorite Christmas cookies to share. There is a room inside where we can set up everything to get warm while we go into the landscape, etc. and we will eat afterwards.

“We are just going to tour a replicated planting of hollies here on the station, then rate them for overall shape, color, berry quality, and winter damage.... nothing more than walking through them and giving them some sort of numerical score.” Anthony tells us. “If it's cold, we are not going to stay out long. We can make a decision on that day.”



“The plants are on a hill with at least a 2-3% slope; however, we can drive almost to them with little walking. This just let's people know that it might be mildly strenuous but nothing they cannot handle,” Anthony explained.

The Mountain Horticultural Crops Research and Extension Center (MHCR&EC) is located at 455 Research Drive in Mills River, North Carolina, about halfway between Asheville and Hendersonville.

As we do every year at this time, we will hold the Christmas Party drawing for a free membership year! Only the names of the people who paid their 2014 dues by October 20, will be in the drawing.

DECEMBER PROGRAM ON HOLLIES—Part 1

Together with deciduous trees and shrubs, the genus *Ilex* offers important companions for the rhododendron garden. There are many species and varieties available in the genus *Ilex*. Our visit to the Fletcher Experiment Station is an introduction to work currently under way locally.

In our quest for year round color in our rhododendron and azalea plantings - especially during late fall/winter/earliest spring - hollies not only add structure to the garden but color, lots of it. But they can add so much more than substance in the shrub and tree layer – they can be used in groups to separate clashing colors in azalea and

(Continued on page 3)

October P4M Meeting and Program Well Attended

We had 35 people at our first meeting at St. John in the Wilderness Parish Hall after it's renovation. President Ray Head welcomed everyone and announced the December program field trip to the Fletcher Research Station. We again voted to do the May Garden Jubilee, even though the price for a booth has gone up to \$175. There are members eager to help and it's great public exposure to encourage the culture of rhododendrons and azaleas. Dues for 2014 had to be in by today in order to be in the drawing in December for a free 2015 membership.

Jackson McCarter gave a financial report. So far this year our total income was \$4,762, which includes plant sales in March, May and July. Expenses were \$4,966 including the flower show and programs. We have a good amount in CD's and the Board will soon discuss ways to use some of it.

Ray explained that Ken Goring is handling the Rhododendron of the Year and Good Doers projects for which we sent suggestions. He submitted the following suggestions for ROY.

Elepidote: Grace Seabrook, Lepidote: PJM,
Deciduous Azalea: R. Prunifolium, Evergreen
Azalea: George L. Taylor.

David Dethero brought a Magnolia Grandifolium to be given away in a drawing, won by Wayne Orchard and Ray brought a Jean Marie D'Montague Rhododendron, won by Audrey Stelloh.



Seiglinde Anderson explained that ARS now has a student membership for only \$10.00, which includes the JARS on line. She encouraged everyone to bring young people to our meetings. She has Sue Hamilton from the University of Tennessee for our 2014 banquet speaker and Don Hyatt for our 2015 banquet speaker. The December field trip is on hollies and the February speaker will soon be determined.

Stan Southerland, of Chapel Hill, presented a wonderful program on the Delbert Brim Hybrids.



Delbert uses Helen Vieira, Whitney's Late Orange and Consolini's Windmill. Then he told about his own hybridizing program where he is breeding for heat

tolerance, disease and insect resistance. He uses R. Hyperythrum in all his crosses for both the seed and pollen parent. His crosses include Cee Cee, Papa Cook and several yet to be named.



Glen O'Sheal handled the plants for Members. We only

had 100 plants from the 300 cuttings this year. J. Jackson and Lindy Johnson of Appalachian Native Plants donated an additional 30 plants.

Thank you J. and Lindy!!! Everyone went home happy.



Delbert Brim's Potting Mix

Pinebark	7-8 Cu. Ft
Sand	.5 cu ft
Peat moss	2 gal
Triple super phosphate	6 oz
Dolmitic limestone	8 oz
Ozmozote 14-14-14	2.8 oz
Gypsum	8 oz
Cottonseed meal	16 oz
Epsom salts	2 oz
Ground Styrofoam	2 gal
Ironite	8 oz

Delbert uses Styrofoam instead of perlite because of cost.

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.

Table with membership dues: Student (\$10.00), 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 our Treasurer: Jackson McCarter

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

Southeastern Chapter AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

New Student Membership, only \$10.00! Commit for Life Memberships are payable in increments over a 3 year period. Encourage a student to join! New members get a free plant at their first meeting!

Hollies: (Continued from page 1) rhododendron plantings and they can be foreground or background as well.

Ranging in size from just 8-10" high up to 25 ft. and more, from a few feet wide to massive 20 ft. spreads, a holly can be found to fill just about any space. Shapes vary from fat or skinny pyramids to flat or rounded low mounds. Both evergreen and deciduous species are available - with variegated foliage in gold or white, shiny or dull leaves with spiny or smooth edges. Berry colors range from red to orange, to yellow and near cream and even insignificant black.



We will follow this program late next fall with another one covering the many available holly varieties. In the meantime, keep your eyes open for hollies available at local nurseries. For further reading visit the web site of the Holly Society of America. I suggest the following for reading: HOLLIES FOR GARDENERS by Christopher Bailes, and RHODODENDRONS IN THE LANDSCAPE by Sonja Nelson.

Sieglinde Anderson, RLA

Bylaws Addendum: At our June 16 Annual Meeting, we accepted in principal the ARS adding a student category of membership. To comply with ARS's Bylaws, our Bylaws Committee has submitted this change and Addendum about the membership classes and dues.

Article II: Membership and Dues Section B. Classes and Dues

There shall be nine classes of membership: 1. Regular 2. Commercial or Corporate 3. Sustaining 4. Sponsoring 5. Life Member Single 6. Life Member Family 7. Honorary 8. Associate 9. Student. The privileges of and dues for each class of membership shall be those defined by the American Rhododendron Society Board in its policies.



According to the ARS Board of Directors minutes of their Meeting on May 2, 2013, "There was a MOTION to approve Bylaws Article II, section B. Result: Approved, via majority. Details related to the student membership (approved via a MOTION and unanimous vote) include: Cost: \$10 (split evenly between Chapter and Society); privileges: full, Journal is in electronic form only; Chapters confirm membership (like through showing a student body card); age: "individuals under 25 years of age."

**Southeastern Chapter of the
American Rhododendron Society**
31 Peachtree Lane
Hendersonville, NC 28791

Officers and Directors

President: Ray Head

Treasurer: Jackson McCarter

Vice President: Sieglinde Anderson **Secretary/Editor:** Marilyn Haynes

Past President: Jackson McCarter **Directors 'til 2014:** Betty Becker,
Jean Pace, April Sanborn

Directors 'til 2014: Wayne Hutchins,
Leon Pace, Audrey Stelloh



Welcome New Member:

Delbert Brim
Mt Airy, NC



New Bylaws Available

Now that ARS has finalized their By-laws regarding new membership categories, our By-laws committee Jean Pace, April Sanborn, and Audrey Stelloh has finalized ours. See page 3.

Members who wish to receive a full copy of the Southeastern Chapter, ARS, By-laws, including the addendum detailing the membership categories, may contact the Secretary.

"Right in keeping with our program on hollies, BB Barnes declared November 'Holly Month' and is offering many varieties at a discount."

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

Deadline for the February Blue Ridge Review is January 10. Please send information, pictures and/or copy to mphaynes@juno.com.

Mark Your Calendar, Now!

December 7, Saturday - 11:00 AM - Christmas Party and Holly program, Anthony Lebude, Mountain Horticultural Crops Research and Extension Center, Fletcher, NC.

February 16, Sunday - 2:00 PM - Program TBD, St. John in the Wilderness Parish Hall.

March 22, Saturday - Banquet, Silent Auction and Speaker. Chariot, Hendersonville.

May 3 & 4, Saturday & Sunday, Flower Show, NC Arboretum, Bent Creek, NC.

April & May - Garden Visits

June 15, Sunday - 2:00 PM - Annual Meeting, St. John in the Wilderness Parish Hall

July 20, Sunday - Annual Picnic and Plant Auction, Place to be determined.