

# THE BLUE RIDGE REVIEW

*Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society*



*Encouragement of the culture of Rhododendrons*

June-July 2013

## **ROUNDTABLE OF EXPERTS, & Pictures of Haag Rhodos Sunday, June 16, 2:00 PM Bullington Gardens**

Our June meeting on the 16th at Bullington Gardens in Hendersonville will be our annual **ROUNDTABLE OF EXPERTS** and **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD**. Please bring your questions about plants or growing rhododendrons and azaleas successfully.



Our experts are ready, willing and able to answer questions on growing rhododendrons, fertilizing, propagating, as well as handling problems with insects and diseases peculiar to these plants we so love. Members on the Round Table, no doubt, have their own special methods for each of these and we novices will be able to take advantage of their years of accumulated experience. So jot down your questions as you think of them and let's all share our knowledge.

We will also be voting for new SE-ARS officers and Board members. Please see the **Nominating Committee Report on page 2**.

As a special treat, Bob and Audrey Stelloh will lead a discussion, with pictures, about which Haag rhododendrons to have propagated for our 2014 Plants for members event.



Don't miss **this** meeting!

## **ANNUAL PICNIC, CUTTING EXCHANGE and PLANT AUCTION Sunday, July 21, 2:00 PM Richards Garden**

Hazel and Byron Richards have invited us back to their beautiful garden and home in Hendersonville to celebrate our Annual Picnic, Cutting Exchange and Auction of favorite garden plants on July 21. For many of us this is a repeat visit since we were there last October. For first time visitors, you are in for a treat. The Richards have collected dwarf conifers and beeches for many years but they also have a number of flowering trees, both native and introduced.



Jean Pace and Audrey Stelloh are organizing the picnic. Please **bring a yummy dish** for the Pot Luck picnic. The chapter will provide ice, tea, water, plates, utensils and napkins. The Richards will provide tables and chairs.

This is the time for cuttings to exchange with our members! Please **bring cuttings** of your favorite rhododendrons to share, in a labeled zip lock bag with a few sprinkles of water. And bring an ice chest to keep the cuttings cool that you carry home.

Also, please bring **ANY interesting plants** you think would sell at the auction. We will find an auctioneer. Anyone interested??? Contact Audrey.

## Flower Show a Great Success!

It was so good to have lots of space again for our annual Flower Show, back at the NC Arboretum, May 3 and 4. There were 167 entries from 12 different people. Ray Head was the Sweepstakes winner and walked away with 'Best of Show' with his Effie's Elation Deciduous Azalea as well as the People's Choice for his 'Sunglow' Azalea. Chairman Glenn O'Sheal, however, definitely had the people's choice with his 'Cynthia' rhododendron, which was also on the winners table.



On the winners table L to R: Grown from Seed by Exhibitor - R. prinphyllum, Ray Head; Evergreen Azalea - Unk. Kurume, Leon & Jean Pace; Best of Show & Deciduous Azalea - Effie's Elation, Ray Head; Elepidote - Cynthia, Glenn O'Sheal; Lepidote (miniature) - Carolinianum x scintillana, Leon and Jean Pace.



In the classroom, Ray and Mary Ann Head set up and label their 30 entries while Glenn O'Sheal checks them in for the show. The spray on the far right is 'Sunglow' the People's Choice Azalea winner. Ross Miller had a second place People's Choice Winner with 'Winterset White' elepidote and the second place Azalea was Ray's 'Vibrant.'

## Preserving the Haag Rhodos

David Grantham is leading the charge to preserve the rhododendron material at the Haag Estate, which is now for sale again. The owner and Realtor are very cooperative in allowing SE-ARS members access to the property to mark special plants while blooming and again in July to take cuttings for our 2014 Plants for Members. Don Hyatt also wants cuttings to root for the 2016 ARS convention. Audrey and Bob Stelloh, Leon Pace, and a few others visited the estate on May 13, 20, and 27 to catch pictures of the blooms and tie ribbons on the most desirable plants. They plan to return in July to take cuttings so as not to lose the plant material forever.



*David Grantham and Chris Brown admire a rhodo at the Haag Estate.*

Since there are too many to have all of them propagated, Bob and Audrey need help choosing which ones to propagate for our P4M. At our June 16 meeting, they will do a "Picture Show" so we will enjoy seeing all the beautiful flowers and we can "vote" on which ones to have propagated.

## Nominating Committee Report

At the June 16 meeting members will be voting on the following nominees for officers and directors.

- President - Ray Head
- Vice President - Sieglinde Anderson
- Treasurer - Jackson McCarter
- Secretary/Newsletter editor - Marilyn Haynes
- Directors until 2015 - Wayne Hutchins, Leon Pace, and Audrey Stelloh.

## The June 16 meeting is at Bullington Gardens!

95 Upper Red Oak Trail, Hendersonville, NC 28792. From Exit 49B of I-26 take US-64 East for 0.7 mi. Turn left (N) on Howard Gap Rd. for 0.9 mi. At fork, go right onto Zeb Corn Rd. 0.5 mi. to the Bullington sign on the right. Turn right on Upper Red Oak Trail. It's there on the left.



# Asheville Garden Tour a Very Special Treat!

Chuck Van Rens came along with his camera and sent to the editor some wonderful photos to add to mine from the three spectacular gardens we visited on May 11th in Asheville.



*<-- Judy Van Rens admires the Dexters at Charlie Owen's place.*

We all car pooled from the Ingles parking lot near Biltmore Forest and proceeded first to **Charlie Owen's garden**, where Charles Owen Dexter himself helped Charlie's mother plant the many Dexters in the yard in 1938.

In recent years Charlie has developed the 3 acre garden to include many perennials and wild



flowers, including native deciduous azaleas. 12 people went on this tour, and we all had our lunches on the Owen's terrace.



*John Cram (third from left) has many unique structures and sculptures in his garden. The John*

**Cram garden** includes many plant species and cultivars including quite a few rhododendrons and azaleas.

*John Cram leads the group down another set of stairs, past numerous azaleas in his spectacular hillside garden.*



Our last stop was at the 15 acre hilltop **garden of Dr. Peter and Jasmine Gentling**. At the wooded entrance



Peter told us the history of the property which was once owned

by Edwin Wiley Grove of the Grove Park Inn, William Gennings Bryan and President Herbert Hoover before he and Jasmine bought it 42 years ago.

*Azaleas grace the bank along the driveway toward the back of the house.*



*Our*



*gracious host, Dr. Gentling, answers questions of Joan Hardy and David Grantham.*



## Hendersonville Garden Tour Also Very Special

Many of us had seen the gardens on the Hendersonville Tour, but this time, May 19, was later in the season and we were pleasantly surprised by the outstanding flowers we saw.



*Leon Pace looks for the tag on a beautiful azalea in Stelloh's garden. It's 'Caprice.'*

Our last stop was at Doley and Melody Bell's, where we've had our June or July picnics over several years. Not much in bloom then. This day, the blooms were spectacular! Everywhere we turned there were more and more and more! ...Just like the previous two gardens we had just seen.



The azaleas and several rhododendrons were in full bloom in the Stelloh garden. Audrey's concrete and glass stepping stones are gorgeous, and are in full color all year round!



Ed Collins garden also was in full bloom with outstanding rhododendrons of many varieties.

Here, Doley is showing us the most spectacular rhododendron on his property, the tetraploid fortunii. Those on this tour were, as pictured, Joan Hardy, Bob Stelloh, Audrey Stelloh, Doley, April Sanborn, Don Haynes, Sieglinde Anderson, and Gail Connor. Marilyn Haynes was taking the picture.



*Ed Collins shows Audrey, Bob, and Sieglinde a special yellow rhodie in his front yard.*

Many, many thanks to our Vice President and Program planner, Sieglinde Anderson, for arranging two spectacular garden tours for this year's bloom season. How we wish that more of our members could also have enjoyed them!

The sign in Ed's garden is great advice for us all.

"GOD LIVES IN EVERY GARDEN, HE LOVES EACH GROWING THING. FORGET YOUR ILLS, GET OUT AND DIG AND SING."



How would you like to **help** insert, fold, label, stamp and sticker a bunch of printed newsletters? Well, you can! By just requesting to receive YOUR Blue Ridge Review in a PDF file by e-mail! Plus you can have the added **bonus** of receiving YOURS in full living color before the snail mail gets there and save SE-ARS nearly \$1.00 per copy!

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 our Treasurer:

Jackson McCarter

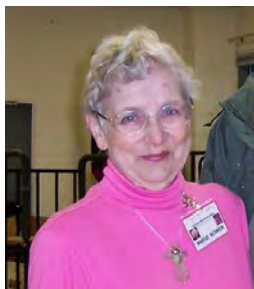
Welcome! ...and Thank you for joining the...

**Southeastern Chapter  
AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY**

*One and one half year's membership for the price of one year, for new members only between April 1 and July 1.  
 Free plant at your first meeting!      ♥ Encourage a friend to join!*

### *In Memoriam*

Mrs. Marjory Bowick, 84, of Easley, SC, wife of Dr. Ralph "Hubert" Bowick, passed away in April.



She was a former nurse and a former substitute teacher for the Pickens County School District. Mrs. Bowick was a member of the local Garden Club, various Bridge Clubs, the Rhododendron Society, and a leader of the Candy

Strippers Club at Baptist Easley Hospital. Mrs. Bowick was also an Election Poll Worker and an active member of Easley Presbyterian Church.

"The Bowicks have been longtime members of the ARS, starting with the William Bartram Chapter and in recent years the Southeastern Chapter. They have a long established beautiful lakeside rhododendron garden in Easley, SC. Hubert (Dr. Bowick, retired surgeon) often enters the flower shows and is invariably a ribbon winner. They were at the recent spring SEARS banquet which they enjoyed. She was always kind and charming."

*Jackson McCarter*

### **Hendersonville Garden Jubilee Festival a Great Success!**

The weather was perfect and crowds were heavy! Don & Marilyn Haynes acquired 90 plants from East Fork Nursery, then added 9 more larger plants from local nurseries. We could have sold more flame azaleas, and only have 2 small plants left.

Our best public education was our little sign stuck in a small azalea saying, "Yes, Azaleas ARE Rhododendrons!" We gave out our Planting Guides, Proven Performers list and membership forms.

Many, many thanks to new members, Wayne Orchard and Susan Boland for the loan of their new canopy and their time. Also to Alan Mizeras, Buffy



Wells, Frances Jones, Wes Burlingame, Claudine and Jeff Miller and David Dethero for the hours of time they spent helping us. Thanks also to the members who stopped by to say "hi" and see how we were doing. It was a real fun weekend!



**Southeastern Chapter of the  
American Rhododendron Society**

**Officers and Directors**

**President:** Jackson McCarter  
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

**Treasurer:** John Brown  
Cleveland, SC 29635-9789

**Vice President:** Sieglinde Anderson  
Fairview, NC 28730

**Secretary/Editor:** Marilyn Haynes  
Hendersonville, NC 28791

**Past President:** Doley Bell  
Hendersonville, NC 28791

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

**Directors 'til 2014:** Betty Becker,  
Jean Pace, April Sanborn



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**Welcome New Members:**

Richard & Linda Bartell  
Black Mountain, NC 28711



If you're not receiving e-mail reminders a few days before our SE-ARS events, it's because I don't have your e-mail address. Please send an e-mail and request event reminders.

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**Mark Your Calendar, Now!**

**June 16, Sunday - 2:00 PM - Roundtable of Experts, Focus on Haag Rhodies, Election of Officers.** Bullington Gardens, Hendersonville.

**July 21, Sunday - 2:00 PM - Picnic, Cuttings Exchange and Plant Auction - Richards Home,** Hendersonville.

**September 14, Saturday - Tom Goforth: Ferns and Their Companions - 'in the field' at his Crow Dog Native Ferns nursery in Pickens, SC.**

**October 20, Sunday - Plants for members and Stan Southerland - "Dilbert Brim Hybrids,"** St. John in the Wilderness Parish Hall.

**December 8, Sunday - 2:00 PM - Christmas Party,** St. John in the Wilderness Parish Hall.

If you're getting a printed copy of the *Blue Ridge Review*, you're missing out on some beautiful colors!