

# THE BLUE RIDGE REVIEW

*Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society*



*Encouragement of the culture of Rhododendrons*

March 2013

## "Exploring the Far East for New and Fun Plants" with Brian Upchurch -- Banquet & Silent Auction Saturday, March 23, 2013 - 1:00 PM

Join Brian Upchurch for a whirlwind tour of Japan, Korea, and China looking for new plants for our gardens back home. Subtitled "Adventures and Misadventures in Japan, Korea, and China," Brian

will cover the often humorous and strange adventures in seeking plants in foreign countries – meeting fellow



*"L-R: Yuichi Sakai, me, Matt Cherry, Takayuki Kobayashi, at a traditional Japanese hotel and hot springs in Nikko, Tochigi Prefecture. -Brian Upchurch*

plantsmen, collecting in the wild, exploring arboreta and specialty nurseries in the region; as well as the trials and tribulations of paperwork and government agencies. Plants featured in his presentation will include deciduous and coniferous species adapted to southern and mid-Atlantic gardens.

Brian is the owner of Highland Creek Nursery in Fletcher, NC, a wholesale nursery specializing in the



propagation of unusual, rare and not yet introduced woody ornamentals. His nursery offers grafted liners and bare-root plants to the trade

*A 'rest stop' on a footpath up the hillside above Kyoto, Japan; with a native acer palmatum showing red fall color.*

throughout the Eastern USA, Japan and parts of Europe. Many of his introductions are also available at retail to gardeners from PendulousPlants.com and SmallPlants.com, Internet based mail order companies. They also exhibit at the NC Growers Show at the Farmers Market in Asheville each year for on the spot buying.

Brian has received many awards and publishes frequently in the American Nurseryman and other trade journals. He also gives frequent lectures and holds seminars at local, regional and international meetings on grafting, marketing, research and production practices.



*Rhodoleia henryi  
'Takeshitesei'*

Brian has promised to bring plants for our Silent Auction, which April Sanborn is coordinating. Here is a fabulous opportunity to grab rare plants not available anywhere else yet. We'll also have a tea cup raffle of 3 or 4 very special items.

Please make your reservations by sending a check for \$15.00 per person **by March 8** to John Brown. SE-ARS is subsidizing part of the dinner cost to encourage greater attendance. Guests are very welcome. The menu, which will be served at 2:00, will be Stuffed chicken with Apple cornbread stuffing, Beef brisket au jus, Sweet potato souffle, grilled fresh vegetables, variety of salads, breads, dessert and beverages.

## Lepidote Rhododendrons a Popular Topic at February Meeting

Our first meeting for 2013 had 32 people attending, including 7 guests, to hear Ray Head speak on Lepidote Rhododendrons with Jackson McCarter's

Power Point photos illustrating, at St. John in the Wilderness Parish Hall in Flat Rock, NC. Three of the guests joined at this event.



Ray's presentation was outstanding! He had a printed handout; Jackson illustrated with beautiful pictures; and Ray had a very informative display board of cuttings in bud from many lepidote rhododendrons. Lepidote rhododendrons are wonderful plants in our southeastern gardens, but are not widely available in the nursery trade.

The meeting began with a vote on the Bylaw changes that have been published in the last two newsletters. There were 25 members present, (30 made a quorum), so the President directed the Secretary to send an e-mail to the membership requesting a vote from those who were not present. A motion was made by Jackson McCarter and seconded, to adopt the Bylaw changes as published. The vote passed unanimously. *Note: An e-mail which was sent by the Secretary on Monday, Feb. 18 to the membership, received 16 affirmative votes, more than exceeding the required quorum.*

Jackson announced that David Grantham, an Associate member of SE-ARS, is coordinating a project to study the Haag Hybrids for the 2016 ARS spring Convention being hosted by District 9 in the Mid Atlantic area. He would like our chapter to be involved in gathering information.

The March 23rd banquet was announced. Glenn O'Sheal announced slight adjustments to the flower show times to conform with the NC Arboretum's

new hours. Jackson has some plants left over from the convention which may be offered for sale at a plant sale at the Arboretum flower show weekend, May 4-5.

We also discussed participating in the Hendersonville Garden Jubilee Festival, May 25 and 26, Memorial Day weekend. A Brand new member, Wayne Orchard, will loan us a 10' x10' canopy, and several people offered to help get plants and to staff the booth. Marilyn & Don Haynes will chair it. It's a wonderful opportunity to advance our mission. If you too can help, please let Marilyn Haynes know.

David Dethero brought a ball and burlap "mystery plant" that was covered with buds, to be given to the first of the guests to join. Susan Boland and

Wayne Orchard joined, and Joan Hardy, ARS member from the Princeton, NJ, Chapter, ARS, joined as an Associate member. Wayne and Susan



live in Flat Rock, and Joan is in the process of relocating to western NC.

Vice President, Sieglinde Anderson, announced that Vaseyi is holding a program on mosses on March 24. She is working on garden visits and hikes for April and May. She urged us to think about appointing a hospitality chair.

Audrey Stelloh, Nominating Chair, announced that we need a President, Secretary and Treasurer for next year. The Secretary does not need to do the newsletter unless he/she wants to; Marilyn will consider continuing with that if requested by the new Secretary.

**2013 ARS International Convention  
Seattle, WA**

**May 1-5, 2013**

**"Then, Now, and in Your Future"**

**Early registration must be postmarked  
by February 28.**

The winter 2013 issue of **JARS is now online.** Check the online version. We especially urge all as many members as possible to view the online JARS.

With the most recent increase in postage rates, it would help if many members would choose this option for future issues.



Instructions:

1. Access the ARS Office web site: [www.arsoffice.org](http://www.arsoffice.org)
2. Click on "View Journal American Rhododendron Society online edition.
3. If you already have a user name and password, click on "login". If you do not have a user name and password, click on "Register Now" and follow instructions for obtaining them.

Thanks, Sonja Nelson, Assistant Editor, JARS

## From the Nominating committee

The Southeastern Chapter of the ARS is in a curious predicament. Three of the Officers are retiring this June, 2013. This means that we need volunteers for the offices of President, Secretary and Treasurer. For the last 6 years Marilyn Haynes has served our Chapter as Secretary and Newsletter Editor in an exceptional manner. For the last 4 years John Brown has served as Treasurer of the Chapter and the 2012 Joint Convention, down to the penny. For the last 2 years Jackson McCarter has served as President and Sieglinde Anderson has served as Vice President. Sieglinde has agreed to continue for another term.

Thanks to the generous volunteer work that these people have contributed to the Chapter, the rest of us have enjoyed the benefits of excellent meetings, garden visits, newsletters and trustworthy accounting. Now we need to fill these positions. The nominating committee is looking for volunteers. Since you have benefited from the programs and activities of the SE-ARS Chapter, please consider giving back to the Chapter by volunteering. We have job descriptions available.

Thank you for your consideration. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact one of us:

Marilyn Haynes- Ray Head- Glenn O'Sheal- Audrey Stelloh

## Vaseyi Chapter Invites SE-ARS Members

Audrey Stelloh, President of the Vaseyi Chapter, ASA, has invited SE-ARS members to participate in their March and April programs.



**March 24th, Sunday –** Speaker: Mossin Annie/ Annie Martin - Using Moss with Azaleas, at 2:00 PM at Bullington Gardens. Mossin Annie "Go Green With Moss program": Mosses are great companion plants to use with azaleas and rhododendrons. Many of the bryophyte types that are indigenous to western North Carolina like acidic soil conditions. Annie will emphasize appropriate moss species and gardening techniques to enable members to achieve their own moss success.

**April 27, SATURDAY -** Nursery garden visit to Ray Head and Wayne Hutchins, near Rutherfordton, NC. Ray's woodland garden is spectacular, so this is an opportunity not to be missed! Meet at 10:30 AM at Ray's,



(Either pack one at home or stop at Subway or

someplace to get a sandwich and a drink.) After lunch we'll go to Wayne's, 890 Crowe Dairy Road, Forest City, NC 28043. Wayne always has beautiful plants for sale. See his web site: [plantsaplentyfarm.com](http://plantsaplentyfarm.com). If you need directions, contact Audrey.

# Southeastern Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society

## Officers and Directors

**President:** Jackson McCarter

**Treasurer:** John Brown

**Vice President:** Sieglinde Anderson

**Secretary/Editor:** Marilyn Haynes

**Past President:** Doley Bell

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

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



## Welcome New Members:

Dr. Maurice and Joan Burse,

Dr. Paul and Haley Gilbert,

Dr. & Mrs. Larry Mellichamp,

Lonnie and Kay Player,

Marshall Stillwell,

Christopher Wetmore,

...have transferred their ARS membership from  
the Piedmont Chapter to Southeastern for 2013.

Joan Hardy is a new Associate member.

David Siegel,

Wayne Orchard & Susan Boland are new members.

Their contact information is in the new 2013 ...

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY, INSIDE.**



## Mark Your Calendar, Now!

**March 23, Saturday - 1:00 PM. Annual Banquet and Silent Auction** at The Chariot, Hendersonville, NC. Speaker: **Brian Upchurch, "Rhododendron Companions - New Tree & Shrub Introductions."**

**April 14, Sunday** - Garden Visits - Stelloh and Montgomery.

**May 4 - 5, Saturday & Sunday - Flower Show**, NC Arboretum, Bent Creek, NC.

**May 11 or 12** - Garden Visits - John Cram and Peter Gentling, Asheville.

**May 25-26, Sat. & Sun. 10:00-6:00, Hendersonville Garden Jubilee Festival**, Main St. Hendersonville, NC.

**June 16, Sunday- 2:00 PM Cutting Exchange, Roundtable of Experts**, Election of Officers. Bullington Gardens, Hendersonville.

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