



P.O. Box 715 Southeastern, PA 19399-0715

Web site: www.ValleyForgeARS.org

NEWSLETTER ***May / June 2017***

Unless specified otherwise, meetings are at Jenkins Arboretum in Devon

Calendar at a Glance

May 5-7 (Fri to Sun.) Valley Forge Chapter's Plant Sale at Jenkins Arboretum

May 14 (Sun.) Joint Greater Philadelphia/Valley Forge Flower Show at Jenkins

June 25 (Sun.) Annual Chapter Meeting and Picnic at Barbara Winters

August 20 (Sun.) District 8 Cuttings Exchange and Auction

President's Message

The biggest event of the year is our plant sale May 5, 6, and 7. Everyone can do something to make this a success and you will be receiving a phone call soon. But don't wait! Contact anyone on the board and we will direct you to the organizers. We already have a strong showing for the Friday night presale event. Should be another good year.

Our next event is the picnic and election of officers/directors. We will be out with the slate of candidates in a little over a month, but we're always interested in other nominations. This event will be held at Barbara Winters gardens at 2pm June 25 where we have had many memorable picnics in the past. Details will appear elsewhere in this newsletter or in a future communication.

Warm up those shovels and trowels for all the plants members are sure to purchase (We are our own best customers.) at the sale.

Bob Smetana, (610) 688-5249, vfarssmetana@yahoo.com

Visit the Chapter's web site: www.ValleyForgeARS.org

On June 25 (Sunday), at 2:00 pm: at Barbara Winters':

Valley Forge Chapter Picnic and Annual Meeting

Barbara Winters, 936 Shenkel Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

Barbara Winters backyard is a location where hundreds of mules once grazed in between trips up and down the Schuylkill Canal. This left a good legacy of soil along the mule path where the rhododendrons flourish by the dozens. This very large property was purchased in 1754 from descendants of William Penn.

Bring a salad, vegetable, or dessert serving 4 – 6 and your own eating utensils and chairs. Meat and beverages will be provided. We encourage new members or members who have never attended before simply to join in the fun and bring along their families or gardening friends.

There will be a brief business meeting (election of officers) and time to visit their garden.

Directions

From US-422: Take PA-100 South.

About ¼ mile south of US422, turn right onto PA-724W (W Schuylkill Rd) towards Birdsboro.

After 1.4 mi. turn left onto Catfish Lane.

After 0.6 mi. turn right onto Valley View Rd.

After 0.7 mi. turn right onto Temple Rd.

Then immediately turn right onto Shenkel Rd.

Barbara is 0.8 miles down Shenkel on the right.

From Bucktown: Take PA-100 North.

About 2.0 miles north of PA-23, turn left onto W. Hoffecker Rd.

After 0.5 mi. turn right onto Laurewood Rd.

After 0.1 mi. cross Temple Rd onto Shenkel Rd.

Barbara is 0.8 miles down Shenkel on the right.

From May 5 to 7, 2017 at Jenkins Arboretum

Valley Forge Chapter Annual Plant Sale at Jenkins Arboretum

May 5 (Friday): 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.: Party and Presale
(by reservation, \$30/person. Check to Chris Smetana or
ARS, P.O. Box 715, Southeastern, PA 19399-715)

May 6 (Saturday): 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Public Sale -- free admission

May 7 (Sunday): 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Public Sale -- free admission

The one-page **Valley Forge ARS Plant Sale Flier** is included in this newsletter. It and the 4-page version are posted online at:

<http://rhodyman.net/VFARS/2017VFARSPlantSale1-page.pdf>

<http://rhodyman.net/VFARS/2017VFARSPlantSale4-page.pdf>

On May 14 (Sunday) at Jenkins Arboretum

Greater Philadelphia/Valley Forge Flower Show at Jenkins

Entries submitted: 7:30 – 10:15 a.m. Open to the public: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The **Joint Greater Philadelphia and Valley Forge Flower Show Rules** are included in this newsletter. The rule and the azalea and rhododendron master lists are also posted on line at:

<http://rhodyman.net/VFARS/2017ARSFlowerShow.pdf>

<http://rhodyman.net/VFARS/2017AzaleaMasterList.pdf>

<http://rhodyman.net/VFARS/2017RhododendronMasterList.pdf>



Look Ahead to 2018: Germany!
“North America Meets Europe”

It is not too early to start planning for the ARS meeting next May in Northern Europe. This will be one of the most extensive rhododendron meetings ever offered. The Pre- and Post-Tours are optional and hosted by the European ARS chapters. The actual Convention will be in Bremen Germany. Here are some of the activities currently planned.

May 6–12: Pre-Tour 1, Holland

Visit many public and private gardens including the famous bulb display at Keukenhof.

May 13–14: Pre-Tour 2, Germany

Visit the RHODO 2018 Exposition in

Westerstede as well as the Hobbie and Hachmann Nurseries.

May 15–20: Pre-Tour 3, Denmark/Sweden

Tour south Sweden and Denmark visiting private gardens, public gardens, and a castle.

May 21-26: ARS Convention, Germany

This is the main part of the convention with several days of tours to spectacular public gardens or nurseries during the day and banquets and speakers in the evenings.

May 27–31: Post-Tour, Finland

Fly to Helsinki from Bremen and tour Finnish gardens for 3 days before flying home.

For more information and pictures, check out the program at the ARS 2018 website:

<http://ARS2018/>



The Philadelphia Story 19

Rhododendrons In America’s Garden Capital

The 2019 ARS Convention will be at The Desmond Hotel in Malvern

The Greater Philadelphia, Lehigh Valley, Susquehanna Valley & Valley Forge Chapters of the ARS will host the 2019 Convention Thu. May 16 to Sun. May 19. Karel Bernady and Steve Henning are Co-Chairs for the convention. The Desmond in Malvern is the convention hotel. The Desmond will host the main banquet and a second banquet will be held off site at the American Helicopter Museum which is about 10 minutes from The Desmond. Tour itineraries are being contemplated, with a mix of outstanding public gardens including Chanticleer, Winterthur, Tyler Arboretum Jenkins Arboretum, Longwood,

Morris Arboretum, and Mount Cuba, and fine private gardens of members. In addition, a plant sale, breeders’ roundtable, a truss show and photo competition are envisioned.

Anyone interested in working on the planning committee is invited to contact Karel Bernady or Steve Henning (rhodyman@earthlink.net).

Closer to the convention, many more members will be needed to carry out a variety of duties – tour docents, plant sales, goodie-bag stuffing, staffing the registration table and more.

American Rhododendron Society
 Valley Forge Chapter
 P.O. Box 715
 Southeastern, PA 19399-0715

FIRST-CLASS MAIL



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Page 3 2018 Convention in Germany	John Ryan ('14-'17) (610) 971-2368
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Please contact us with email changes or if you receive this newsletter by letter carrier rather than email, even though you have e-mail. Please inform Steve Henning of any changes (rhodyman@earthlink.net).	