



'Valley Forge'

Charles Herbert's Hybrid

The American Rhododendron Society

VALLEY FORGE CHAPTER

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

NEWSLETTER Summer 2011

Unless otherwise specified, meetings are held at Jenkins Arboretum

Calendar at a Glance

August 21 (Sunday)	Cuttings Sale and Plant Auction at Doris and Wayne Guymon's, Chadds Ford
September 15 (Thursday)	Regular Meeting: Maggie Knapp, Head Horticulturist of Jenkins Arboretum, on Pruning
October 20 (Thursday)	Regular Meeting at Jenkins Arboretum: Tom Ahern on Best Plants from Area Hybridizers
November 13 (Sunday)	Annual Banquet at St. Davids Golf Club in Radnor: Doug Jolley on Wild Orchids and Native Azaleas

President's Message

A special welcome to our newest members (listed below) and to our newest directors, Ellin Hlebik and Andy Earle.

In April, Harold Sweetman, Director of Jenkins Arboretum, presented a fascinating program on the Arboretum's "Wind through the Trees" sculpture art, along with beautiful and enlightening photos of plants.

Thanks to Chris Smetana and just the right mix of plants, the Plant Sale was a huge success. Thanks to everyone who helped during the sale and in planning and setting up for the sale.

The Joint Philadelphia/Valley Forge Flower Show had lots of great trusses. Thanks to Bob Smetana for taking over the Show this year, to his judges and helpers, and to all who brought trusses. Congratulations to Best-in-Show recipient Joe Minahan for elepidote 'Cape White' and to Sweepstakes winners Bob and Christa Stamper.

Special thanks to Dawna and Lou Winegrad for hosting our chapter's Annual Meeting and Picnic and their wonderful hospitality. Many of us were excited about their interest in the plants left by Joe and Doris Becales and their restoring the garden.

Like last summer, we have very dry conditions again this year. Rhododendrons and azaleas that wilt on scorching hot days but have not recovered by the next morning should be watered thoroughly in the cool of the morning.

Steve Henning (rhodyman@earthlink.net)

www.ValleyForgeARS.org

Members of ALL area chapters are invited to the
**RHODODENDRON AND AZALEA CUTTINGS
EXCHANGE/PLANT AUCTION**

(Auctioneer: Karel Bernady)

at

Doris and Wayne Guymon's, 10 Lafayette Place, Chadds Ford, PA 19317
610/459-0477

Sunday, August 21, starting at 1:30 p.m., *rain or shine*

Proceeds benefit the ARS Endowment Fund and the Research Foundation

See also www.ValleyForgeARS.org

1:30-2 p.m.: Staging of cuttings.

Cut 3 or 4 large-leaf (elepidote) or 4-6 small-leaf (lepidote) cuttings, preferably early in the morning and low on the plants. Place in a plastic bag with a few drops of water. Named varieties only, please! Please label the bags with a water-proof marker or pencil and add, if possible, info about characteristics or parentage.

2:00 p.m.: Cuttings exchange/sale.

Cuttings are 25 cents a bag for everyone and are an easy and inexpensive way to increase one's collection of azaleas and rhododendrons (see **propagation**).

2:30 p.m.: Plant Auction

Auctioneer: Karel Bernady
Please **donate rhodies and azaleas**, as well as other garden-worthy plants that you feel others would like.

It will help the auctioneer and the potential bidder if you write a brief description of a plant or plants that you donate for auction. Having such info will make for lively bidding, especially for one-of-a-kind or special plants.

3:00 p.m.: Propagation.

Frank Brouse will expertly demonstrate how to propagate from cuttings.

About 3:30 p.m.: Dessert.

Please bring your favorite **fingerfood** dessert. (You also may bring a box lunch and eat it any time.)

Beverages will be provided.

Since seating is limited, also please bring your own chair(s).

See also our website:

www.ValleyForgeARS.org

Directions: On Route 1, midway (0.4 mi) between Brandywine Battlefield and Chadds Ford, turn **right into Webb Road if coming south** or **turn left if coming north**. After 1.2 mi on Webb Road, turn left into Lafayette Place to No. 10.

If possible, **RSVP to Ellin Hlebik by 8/13** or contact her for questions at 610/584-9764 or leftwall@yahoo.com

2011 Valley Forge & Greater Philadelphia Joint Flower Show

Bob Smetana

The show was well received and many hundreds (if not a thousand) arboretum visitors were able to view it.

A special thanks to the Warrens, Stampers, Sue Thomson, and Maggie Zimmerman for clerking; to Chris Smetana for handling the luncheon; to Win Howe and Jim Gears for checking/classifying each of the 207 entries; and to the Howes for scorekeeping. Eva Jackson and Steve Henning rounded out the staff that made this show a success.

Two new judges, Alice Horton and Darlene Henning, joined four experienced judges, Peg Van Patton, Ron Rabideau, and the Doppels.

Trophies

Best In Show: Joe Minahan for Elepidote Rhododendron ‘Cape White’
Sweepstakes Bob and Christa Stamper for Most Points
Best Species: Linda Fowler Hartnett for Elepidote Rhododendron
‘Mist Maiden’
Best New Hybrid: Michael Mills for Evergreen Azalea ‘Orange Coral Bells’
Best Rhododendron: Joe Minahan for Elepidote Rhododendron ‘Cape White’
Best Evergreen Azalea: Marc and Sue Thompson for Azalea ‘George L. Taber’
Best Deciduous Azalea: Marc and Sue Thompson for Azalea ‘Kennel Gold’

Ribbons

	ENTRIES	BLUE	RED	YELLOW	POINTS
George Elser	6	2	1	2	10
Mimi Favre	8	1	1	0	5
Jim Gears	6	3	1	0	11
Win Howe	8	0	0	3	3
Jenkins Arboretum	15	4	4	2	22
Randell Jessup	4	1	0	0	3
Bob Stamper	38	7	8	8	45
Bob Smetana	9	2	3	1	13
Joan Warren	13	3	1	2	13
Kathy Woehl	1	0	0	0	0
John Ryan	12	0	0	3	3
Michael M. Mills	27	4	4	1	20
Frank Furman	18	3	4	0	17
Sue Thompson	15	5	3	2	23
Joe Minahan	7	5	0	1	16

Congratulations to all!

www.ValleyForgeARS.org

Congratulations to the two newly elected officers
(**highlighted**). The Valley Forge Board now includes:

President: Steve Henning Vice President: Bob Smetana
Treasurer: Chris Smetana Secretary: Joan Warren

Directors:

Ellin Hlebig ('09-'12) (filling vacancy)
Kathy Woehl ('09-'12)
Alice Horton ('10-'13)
Darlene Henning ('10-'13)
Andy Earle ('11-'14)
John Ryan ('11-'14)

Webmaster: Jim Willhite
Newsletter Editor: Eva Jackson

Please welcome our newest members:

Members (primary of Valley Forge Chapter):

Helen Negus/James Dobner, 808 Devon State Rd, Devon, PA 19333, 484-595-0361

Anand Ekambaram, 608 Baron DeKalb Rd, Wayne, PA 19087,
610-341-0389, lhariharan27@gmail.com

Ken Hamm, 851 Old State Rd, Berwyn, PA 19312, 610-644-6493

Lynn and Tony Hitschler, 211 Radnor Chester Rd, Villanova, PA 19085,
610-687-8464, lynnhitschler@me.com

Margaret McDonnell, 18 Manor Rd, Paoli, PA 19301,
610-647-0886, mmcdonnell102@yahoo.com

Laura Pearson, 136 Clover Hill La, Strafford, PA 19087, 610-687-1373

Debby Schmidt, 51 Blue Stone Drive, Chadds Ford, PA 19317,
610-388-8573, debbschmidt@comcast.net (Debby was a member many
years ago, before she moved away from this area—welcome back!)

Judy Smith, 117 W. 4th Ave, Conshohocken, PA 19428,
judysartworks@gmail.com

Bruce Weintraub, P.O. Box 352, Valley Forge, PA 19481,
610-783-1715, bruce@weitel.com

Associate members (primary member of another chapter)

Niels and Enid Nielson, 2080 Stonemarrow Rd, Bethlehem, PA 18015, 610-865-5112
(Lehigh Valley Chapter)

Bill Dennis, in support of climate-friendly garden practices, recommends
www.climatefriendlygarden.org for pertinent information.

www.ValleyForgeARS.org

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Valley Forge Chapter
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FIRST-CLASS MAIL



**NEWSLETTER
*Summer 2011***

IMPORTANT: E-mail Addresses

Since the newsletter is distributed **by email** to those with an email address, it is important that anyone who establishes an email address for the first time or changes an email address inform Steven and Darlene Henning (rhodyman@earthlink.net). Steve emails the newsletter, and Darlene (Membership) sends it by U.S. Mail to those without an email address. Emailing the newsletter is saving us expenses for printing and postage).

Information to be included in the newsletter should be sent to Eva Jackson, 349 Fox Hound Drive, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444, noelevajackson@comcast.net

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