

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society



April 2012 Newsletter

President: Linda Hartnett (2011-12)
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Newsletter: Maris Ogg
Plants and Propagation: Karel Bernady & Linda Hartnett

Truss Show: Michael Martin Mills
Phila. Flower Show: Linda Hartnett

Chapter Website: gpchapterars.org

OUR NEXT MEETING: Annual Banquet featuring Dick Jaynes talking about Kalmias

You are in for a special evening with Dick Jaynes leading us through the world of Kalmias. Dick Jaynes and his wife Sally are proprietors of Broken Arrow Nursery in Hamden, Connecticut. Dick has received numerous awards for his research and has authored 'Kalmia: Mountain Laurel and Related Species'. In the Broken Arrow catalogue, Mr. Jaynes is quoted, "We tend to be a bit biased on this particular shrub, but with good reason. We currently hold the largest collection of mountain laurel in the world and have actively collected and bred the species for many years. The result is a startling range of flower colors and plant habits and more than 30 cultivar introductions with several more on the way". Kalmia are a wonderful and exciting addition to any garden but are particularly compatible with the genus rhododendron. So join us for an evening of 'compatible companionship' for our gardens and our friends and attend the Greater Philadelphia Chapter's annual banquet.

We need to have your reservation by April 10. The Banquet will be held at the Whitmarsh Valley Country Club, located at 815 Thomas Road, Lafayette Hill, Pa 19444. We will gather at 6:00 p.m. for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, with dinner at 7:00 p.m. followed by the program. It is a cash bar. Table favors will be chapter-propagated rooted cuttings from fine gardens in the region.

As always, the evening will conclude with the avidly anticipated plant exchange, 'Rhododendron Roulette'. (For each reservation, please bring a rhododendron, azalea, or companion plant for the exchange. Please put your name on the tag in the event the recipient wants to get more information on the cultivar.) Never done this before? Call chapter president Linda Hartnett, 610 940 4978.

2012 INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW NEWS: 'RHODODENDRONS IN

PARADISE' - Our chapter created a great exhibit this year and we want to thank the committee that worked so hard on our 50th year in the Philadelphia International Flower Show: Michael Mills, Randy Dalton, Kim Kopple, Debby Evans, Karel Bernady, Cynthia & Rupert Rossetti, Betts Layman, & Linda Hartnett. While we had a challenge this year with Hawaii as the theme, our exhibit was well received. We featured Vireyas, a tropical Rhododendron that is grown & used in Hawaii. We also want to thank the set-up and take-down crews who worked hard to actually translate the work of the committee into reality. And without our exhibit watchers our good work could not have been shared with the outside world. We welcomed some new friends this year to our exhibit watching & hope that we can encourage them to join in the future. Thank you to Ellin Hlebik, Alice Horton, Eva Forchion, Lou Winegrad, & Nils & Mary Knutzen as new volunteers this year to help at the Flower Show. A

thank you goes out to Steve Kristoph for lending us his Banana Plant & Tibouchina for the show. Jon Villaume was also kind enough to lend us some of his small azaleas for the show. Fairmount Park, under the leadership of Dan O'Brien, did a great job of forcing & readying our plants for the show. Forcing can be a challenge. Next year's theme will be a little easier for the lover of Rhododendrons. The theme will revolve around gardens in England.

PLANTS FOR MEMBER'S WORK DAYS - On April 28th Karel Bernady will be leading another 'Pot Party' at Steve Kristoph's nursery in New Jersey starting at 9:00 a.m. We will be potting up new cuttings and 'up potting' smaller plants. Please contact Karel by e-mail or telephone, [610 827 0113](tel:6108270113), if you like to join in. It is a fun & jovial time. Also, on June 1st and 2nd we will be 'up potting' and cataloging our plants that we started from our grafting program. We will again be at Steve's. Please contact Karel if you would like to help out and maybe learn a new skill.

ANNUAL PLANT SALE WITH MORRIS ARBORETUM & TRUSS SHOW

The Plant Sale is May 10, 11, & 12 this year. We will offer a great selection of rhododendrons, large & small leaf, azaleas, deciduous and evergreen, and kalmias. A plant list will be available on our website before the sale. It is open to the public on the 12th of May & open to Morris Members and our chapter on the 11th. The Plant Sale is attended by invitation on the 10th. Friday's hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday's hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cut-Flower Competition (Also known as The Truss Show) - Saturday, May 12, 2012, Morris Arboretum Deadline for entries: 8:45 a.m. sharp! You will enjoy an amazing display of color and flowers at the show. If you enter, you could be a winner in the competition! The brochure with rules and guidelines and the catalogue of previous entries can be read and/or downloaded at www.GPChapterARS.org. Copies of the brochure and entry tags will be available at the banquet. Those without computer access may contact Show Chairman Michael Mills at 215-844-6253 to receive paper copies of the brochure, catalogue and entry tags.

Annual Picnic – Sunday, June 10. The picnic will be held at the home of Maris Ogg and Bob Smith at 507 E. Mill Road in Flourtown 19031. The main course will be provided as will paper goods and soft drinks. Please bring a "potluck" side dish or dessert to accompany the main course. Alcohol is BYO. Contact Linda to RSVP. We will meet at 1:00 pm, rain or shine.

2012 Member List - Our Treasurer, Myo Mynt, is offering the 2012 Member List for Greater Philadelphia Chapter in PDF format to anyone who requests a copy by sending him an email. Myo's address is myintm933@verizon.net.

E-NEWS – If you'd like to switch over to electronic newsletter delivery contact Maris Ogg, mogg@towerbridgeadvisors.com.

CALENDAR

April 14 – Annual Banquet. Dick Jaynes will speak on Kalmias.

May 11-12 – Morris Arboretum Plant Sale.

May 12 – Cut Flower Competition.

June 1 and 2 – Potting workday at Steve Kristoffs nursery.

June 10- Annual Picnic at the home of Maris Ogg and Bob Smith in Flourtown.

August 19 - DISTRICT 8 CUTTING EXCHANGE Details to follow.

September 9 – Plants for members. 1:30 at Bloomfield Farm.

Reservation Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please choose an entrée for each reservation:

Filet Mignon _____ *(number) x \$55 =* _____

Salmon _____ *(number) x \$47 =* _____

Vegetarian _____ *(number) x \$45 =* _____

Total: _____

Send this form with a check for the total, payable to "Greater Philadelphia Chapter ARS", to:

*Linda Hartnett
1551 Butler Pike
Blue Bell, PA 19422*