

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society



August 2009 Newsletter

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CUTTING WORKDAY AT STEVE KRISTOPH'S NURSERY - Saturday, August 8th: Cuttings will be struck for Plants for Members, 2010. RSVP to Karel or Linda and ask for directions, if necessary. Plan to arrive about 9:00 a.m. and bring clippers, a hat, sunscreen, lunch and some liquids to drink. We will have some water for the gang. If you have a tall stool bring it along for extra comfort. If you are bringing cuttings to share please let Karel know.

THE DISTRICT 8 AUCTION AND CUTTING EXCHANGE will be at the home of Joan and Reid Warren, 34 Briarwood Drive, Elverson, Pennsylvania, 610-913-0005 - **Sunday, August 16th at 1:30 p.m.** RAIN OR SHINE

Proceeds benefit the ARS Endowment Fund and the Research Foundation

If possible, RSVP Ellin Hlebig by 8/13, or contact her if you have questions,
calling (610/584-9764) or e-mailing (leftwall@yahoo.com)

If extreme weather conditions threaten,
call Ellin before 9 am the morning of the event (cell phone 610/996-8238)

The District 8 Regional Conference meeting will follow with committee members. Details and directions to the Warren's follow...

1:30-2 p.m.: Bring Cuttings (not mandatory in order to attend) 3 or 4 large-leaf (elepidote) or 4-6 small-leaf (lepidote) cuttings, preferably taken early in the morning and low on the plants, may be put into a plastic bag with a few drops of water. **Named varieties only, please.** Please label the bags with a waterproof marker or pencil.

2:00 p.m.: Cuttings exchange/sale Anyone is eligible to buy cuttings at 25 cents a bag. Propagating from cuttings is an excellent and inexpensive way to increase your collection of azaleas and rhododendrons.

2:30 p.m.: Plant Auction Auctioneer: Hank Schannen

Be prepared for lively bidding! Some of the donations are one-of-a-kind hybrids or very special plants. If you have **rhodies and azaleas**, or other garden-worthy plants, that you feel others would like, please donate them.

3:00 p.m.: Propagation Demonstration

For those interested in learning from the experts.

At about 3:30 p.m.: Dessert Please bring your favorite **finger food** dessert. Beverages will be provided. And do bring your own outdoor chairs.

Many of the cuttings and plants donated by members are special or hard to find.

New members or members who have never before attended are encouraged to participate in this event, which is not only educational but also great fun.

From PA Turnpike: Exit 298 (Morgantown). IMMEDIATELY after paying the toll, take the FIRST ramp on the right (Rte 10 north, Beckersville). At end of ramp, turn right, go 1/2 mile, turn right into Joanna Rd for one mile to the Sunoco station, turn right into Elverson Rd 1/2 mile, go through the stop sign at Twin Valley Road, and then take an oblique left turn onto Hopewell Rd; turn left into Red Hill Rd for 1/2 mile, and turn left into Briarwood Drive to the end of the center of the gully and make U-turn to #46. See sign.

From Valley Forge area: Follow PA 23 W to Elverson, turn right into Rt. 82, turn right onto Red Hill Rd, and turn left into Briarwood Drive and make U-turn to #46.

From Reading and north: Take Route 10 south to Joanna Road, turn left and proceed as above. OR take 176 south from 422 to exit before turnpike. At end of ramp, turn left to Joanna Road, etc.

Plant maintenance and sorting for District 8 Regional Conference and Philadelphia Chapter at Steve Kristoph's – Monday August 17th. Arrive around 9:00 a.m. and bring goodies as above, except for the stool.

SEPTEMBER MEETING – Sunday, September 13th, at **11:30 a.m.**, will be the Plants For Members Meeting. Note the change from our usual afternoon meeting time. Details will be provided in the next newsletter.

OTHER NOTES - We are not having our regular meeting at Morris Arboretum in October but we would love to see you at The District 8 Regional Conference on October 23, 24 and 25, 2009. Please check the website for conference information. (ARSfall2009.org)

A special note, Jean Beutler had a stroke in April and is now residing in Florida near her son. Her speech has been affected but she enjoys cards and notes from friends. Her current address is, Dr. Jean Beutler, The Palace Renaissance. 1135 SW 84th Street, Miami, FL 33173

BOARD MEETING REMINDER – The next two board meetings will take place on Tuesday, September 15th and Tuesday, November 17th, 7:30 p.m., at the home of Betts Layman. RSVP to Linda Hartnett or Betts.