



14 Northwoods Road, Radnor, PA 19087-

Chapter's Website: www.ValleyForgeARS.org

NEWSLETTER

March / April 2019

Unless specified otherwise, meetings are at Jenkins Arboretum in Devon

Calendar at a Glance

- March 2-10** (Sat to Sun) Philadelphia Flower Show "Flower Power"
March 21 (Thu.) 7:30 pm, Andrew Schenck "Nursery Production Techniques"
April 13 (Sat.) Greater Phila. Chap. Banquet Sunnybrook Golf Club, Karl Gercens III
May 3-5 Valley Forge Chapter's Plant Sale at Jenkins Arboretum (Fri to Sun.)
May 15-19 ARS 2019 Philadelphia Convention at The Desmond Malvern
May 17-18 ARS Flower Show at The Desmond Malvern (ars2019.org/flowershow)
June 30 (Sun.) Joint VF & GP Annual Chapter Meetings and Picnic at Perc Moser's
August 18 (Sun.) District 8 Cuttings Exchange and Auction

President's Message

The weather was a bit uncertain for our January 20th meeting but everything turned out well and we had a nice turnout to hear Dr. Peter Zale give a wonderful presentation on the history of Rhododendrons at Longwood Gardens. At our February 18th joint Greater Philadelphia Chapter meeting we heard a very entertaining talk by Joseph Klimavicz. Joe talked about his many successes (and a few misses) of his years of hybridizing evergreen azaleas; a hobby in which his daughters were also very involved as they were growing up. This meeting has become a bit of a tradition where members always put together delicious snacks and use the time to catch up with one another. It was another wonderful event and I would like to reach out to Anne Howe and thank her for reserving the historic Uwchlan Friends Meeting House. **Thanks Anne!!!**

On March 21st Andy Schenck of Sam Brown's Wholesale Nursery in Malvern, will be our speaker. Andy will discuss "Nursery Production Techniques: From a Grower's Perspective" and he will provide valuable information to help everyone get their nursery grown plants a good start in getting established in their gardens. On April 13th at

Sunnybrook Golf Club in Plymouth Meeting, the Greater Philadelphia Chapter will hold their annual banquet. This year's speaker will be photographer Karl Gercens.

Although this is our March-April Newsletter, I want to remind everyone that May will be here soon and it will be an exciting time for the Valley Forge Chapter. We start off with our Plant Sale, which will run from Friday evening, May 3rd through Sunday May 5th at Jenkins Arboretum. Alice Horton, the Plant Sale Committee Chair, is always looking for help so please reach out to her and get involved with the sale this year. And the following week, May 15-19th, the 2019 ARS Convention begins and we need volunteers as we host this big event. Steve Wright is our Volunteer Coordinator (see page 4 of this Newsletter). Please contact Steve and volunteer. If you've already volunteered, **thanks very much!!** Wishing everyone an enjoyable Spring Season.

Sincerely,

Jerry O'Dell

(610) 608-2018, westdell@verizon.net

VF ARS website: www.ValleyForgeARS.org

On March 21, 2019, (Thursday) at Jenkins at 7:30 pm:

Speaker: Andrew Schenck, Sam Browns Wholesale Nursery:

“Nursery Production Techniques: From A Grower’s Perspective”

Andrew Schenck received his BS in Ornamental Horticulture from the University of Delaware. Since then he has a 28 year career in Nursery management and become a recognized expert on rare and unusual plants. He is the manager at Sam Browns Wholesale Nursery and is active in the Delaware Center for Horticulture.

When landscape plants fail, it can be due to how they were grown, shipped, or planted. Learn

about nursery production and what we can do to help establish nursery grown plants in the landscape. Andy will discuss production methods used in the nursery industry, from propagation techniques to digging, and preparing plants for sale. He will discuss techniques including bud and top grafting, and will highlight some of the problems common in nursery stock.

On April 13 (Sat.) at 6 PM at Sunnybrook Golf Club, Plymouth Meeting, PA

Program: Photographer Karl Gercens III

Karl Gercens’ passion for horticulture started at an early age while growing-up on a 10,000 acre cotton plantation in Mississippi. The warm Mississippi climate and long growing season helped to nurture his fondness for plants and his appreciation for the wonders of natural beauty. Karl’s experimentation with different plant types and growing methods in that region sparked an interest in new & dynamic exploration for cultivation which ultimately led to his B.S. in Ornamental Horticulture at Mississippi State University. Karl then completed academic internships at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida and at the Filoli Estate in the San Francisco Bay Area of California.

Karl's resume includes professional, hands-on skills from world class organizations such as Longwood Gardens, The Filoli Estate, and

Walt Disney World. His years of horticultural tenure include innovative design-work combined with time-honored approaches for serious gardening! For more complete

information about Karl's background, please visit Karl’s website:

<http://karlgercens.com>

His notoriety for using a pallet of colored foliage trees, shrubs, and perennials continues to funnel the exciting content of his

professional lectures given nationwide and his horticultural classes offered at Longwood Gardens. When Karl is not gardening, lecturing, or consulting his horticultural passion extends worldwide with frequent visits to public and private gardens in all 50 states and more than 20 countries! While at those locations, he often takes vibrant and vivid digital photography which he catalogues to share his experiences with others.



Sunnybrook Golf Club, 398 Stenton Ave, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
Banquet details including the menu, price and directions will be sent out soon.

ARS 2019 Convention at Desmond Malvern, PA

Join our [email list](#) for alerts about changes and updates.

Save the dates, May 15 to 19, 2019
Registration is open for [ARS 2019
Convention](#)

Grand gardens and seminal events in American rhododendron culture have been part of Philadelphia for almost 300 years. Storied estates transformed into sumptuous public gardens – Longwood, Winterthur, Morris Arboretum and many more – have consistently relied on rhododendrons, going back to John Bartram's colonial discoveries. With so many alluring gardens to visit, the region takes pride in its status as America's Garden Capital. Come discover the Philadelphia story, rhododendron version.

Volunteering for the ARS Convention

Thanks to those who offered to help with the ARS Convention in May. Steve Wright is the volunteer coordinator for the Convention and has been keeping track of all of the areas where help is needed and time slots for volunteering in each area. If you haven't volunteered to help for the convention, you can contact Steve at 610-647-8870 ext. 117 or steve@jenkinsarboretum.org. To make it easier for all of us, Steve has listed below all of the activities on all of the days and times that we still need help. Please let him know if you can help and what you would be willing to do; volunteering for multiple things and/or for multiple time slots would be happily accepted.

Registration Desk (Greet guests, sign in guests, hand out goody bags, etc.)

Tuesday 5/14 from 4:20pm to 6:40pm
Tuesday 5/14 from 6:40pm to 9:00pm
Wednesday 5/15 from 7:30am to 10:00am
Wednesday 5/15 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Wednesday 5/15 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm
Thursday 5/16 8:30am to 10:00pm
(can be broken up in various ways)
Friday 5/17 7:30am to 9:30am
Friday 5/17 9:30am to 11:30am
Friday 5/17 11:30am to 1:30pm
Friday 5/17 1:30pm to 3:30pm
Friday 5/17 3:30pm to 5:30pm
Friday 5/17 9:00pm to 10:00pm
Saturday 5/18 7:30am to 9:30am
Saturday 5/18 9:30am to 11:30am
Saturday 5/18 11:30am to 1:30pm
Saturday 5/18 1:30pm to 3:30pm
Saturday 5/18 3:30pm to 5:30pm

Plant Sale - 4 Positions:

- 1) Scan plant tags and prepare a bill of sale for the customer
- 2) Count customer's plants and remove the bar-coded part of the label and give it to a second person who:
- 3) Scans plant tags and prepare a bill of sale for the customer
- 4) Bag purchased plants

Thursday 5/16 from 8:00pm to 10:00pm
The above 4 check-out positions

Friday 5/17 from 4:00pm to 5:00pm
The above 4 check-out positions

Friday 5/17 from 9:00pm to 10:30pm
The above 4 check-out positions.

Saturday 5/18 from 10:00am to 5:00pm
The above 4 check-out positions.

Saturday 5/18 from 9:00pm to 10:30pm
The above 4 check-out positions.

Sunday 5/19 from 9:00am to 12:00pm
The above 4 check-out positions.

Bus Captains (get people loaded onto busses, head counts, talk about the destination and interesting landmarks or historical information about the area, etc.)

Wednesday 5/15 from 9:00am to 4:30pm
Trip to Chanticleer and Winterthur. Have bus captains already, but need one more person as a backup

Thursday 5/16 from 11:00am to 3:00pm
Trip to Tyler Arboretum. Have bus captains already, but need 3 more as backups

Thursday 5/16 from 3:45pm to 8:00pm
Trip to Jenkins Arboretum. Have bus captains already, but need 3 more backups

Friday 5/17 from 8:00am to 4:30pm
Trip to Mt. Cuba Center, Longwood Gardens, and Wayne Guymon's WynEden. Have bus captains already, but need 4 more backups

Saturday 5/18 from 8:00am to 4:30pm
Trip to Morris Arboretum, Stoneleigh and two private gardens (Farley's and Moser's). Need one more bus captain and 5 backups.

Photo and Flower Shows

Thursday 5/16 from 12:00pm to 4:00pm
Set up and check in photos and flowers. Need 4 people

Thursday 5/16 from 8:00pm to 9:00pm
Check in photos and flowers. Need 4 people

Friday 5/17 from 4:00pm to 5:00pm
Staff photo and flower show. Need 2 people

Friday 5/17 from 9:00pm to 10:30pm
Staff photo and flower show. Need 2 people

Sunday 5/19 from 8:00am to 11:00am
Disassemble flower and photo show. Need 4 people

Thank you all again and I hope to hear from you soon.

Steven A. Wright
Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens
610-647-8870 ext. 117
or steve@jenkinsarboretum.org

ARS 2019 Convention Schedule

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

7:30pm ARS Executive Committee
4:00pm-9:00pm Registration

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

7:30am-10:00am Registration Desk Open
8:30am Bus to Chanticleer & Winterthur
3:00pm-9:00pm Registration Desk
5:00pm-9:00pm ARS Board of Directors

Thursday, May 16, 2019

8:30am-9:00pm Registration Desk Open
10:15am Bus to Tyler Arboretum & lunch
2:00pm-4:00pm Submit photos & flowers
4:15pm Bus to Wine & Dine at Jenkins
8:00pm-10:00pm Plant sale after return
8:00pm-9:00pm Submit photos & flowers
8:00pm-10:00pm Registration Desk

Friday, May 17, 2019

7:30am-5:30pm Registration Desk Open
8:30am Bus to Mt. Cuba Center, Longwood, & Guymon's
4:00pm-5:00pm Photo & Flower Show
4:00pm-5:00pm Plant sale
5:15pm Bus to Evening program at American Helicopter Museum
9:00pm-10:30pm Plant sale after return
9:00pm-10:30pm Photo & Flower Show
9:00pm-10:00pm Registration Desk

Saturday, May 18, 2019

7:30am-5:30pm Registration Desk
8:30am Bus to Morris Arb., Stoneleigh, Farley's, & Moser's Gardens
10:00am-5:00pm Public plant sale
5:30pm Social Hour at The Desmond
6:30pm Banquet at The Desmond
9:00pm Plant sale opens after banquet

Sunday, May 19, 2019

9:00am-12:00pm Public plant sale
9:00am-10:00pm Coffee With The President
10:00am Breeders roundtable.
1:00pm Open houses at private gardens.

**Desmond Hotel Malvern
One Liberty Boulevard
Malvern, Pennsylvania**

Rhododendron of the Year Plant Awards: 2018

Mid-Atlantic Region

Twenty-eight rhododendrons selected for their adaptability in eight regions of the United States have been awarded Rhododendron of the Year (ROY) honors for 2019. The purpose of the awards is to educate the public about the wide range of rhododendrons that can be grown successfully in gardens. To be selected for a ROY award a plant must have excellent foliage and flowers, have an attractive plant habit, prove itself cold and heat hardy for the specific region and be pest and disease resistant.

For each region, the Plant Award Committee has chosen four plants - an elepidote and a lepidote rhododendron, a deciduous azalea and an evergreen azalea. The awards started in 2004. The awards for all years are posted at: rhododendron.org/roy19ma.htm: [2019](#), [2018](#), [2017](#), [2016](#), [2015](#), [2014](#), [2013](#), [2012](#), [2011](#), [2010](#), [2009](#), [2008](#), [2007](#), [2006](#), [2005](#), [2004](#).

The Rhododendrons of the Year for all 8 regions are announced in the JARS each year. Those selected for the Mid-Atlantic Region in 2019 are:



Elepidote Rhododendron: 'Ken Janeck'

Rev. Ken Janeck is one of the best forms of *R. degronianum* ssp. *yakushimanum*) with appealing foliage and richly-colored pink flowers. Flowers are funnel-shaped, 2½" across, held in trusses with 13 to 17 flowers. Blooms midseason. Leaves oblanceolate, re-curved, dark green with thick indumentum beneath. Compact, mounding plant habit. Grows twice as wide as high. Height: about 4 ft. in 10 years. Cold hardy to -15°F (-26°C). Selection received an Award of Excellence (1969). There is debate as to whether the plant is a variety of the species or is a hybrid containing *R. smirnowii* or another species. Selected by Janeck.



Deciduous Azalea: R. cumberlandense

Flower orange to red, sometimes yellow, slightly fragrant, funnel-shaped, 1½" to 1¾" across. Truss holds 3-7 flowers. Blooms late to very late. Leaves ovate or obovate to elliptic, up to 3" long, deciduous. Low shrub, often stoloniferous. Grows to 4 ft. tall in 10 years. Cold hardy to -15°F (-26°C). Native species found in the eastern United States on the Cumberland Plateau in Kentucky and Tennessee and on the mountains of Georgia, Alabama, and North Carolina.



Lepidote Rhododendron: 'Rhein's Luna'

Flower light purple at edges shading lighter in throat, no markings, openly funnel-shaped, 1¼" across. Ball-shaped truss has 4-6 flowers. Blooms early midseason. Leaves elliptic, acute apex, cuneate base, convex, 2¾" to 3⅝" long, semi-glossy, moderate olive green. Open growth habit. Grows to a typical height of 5 ft. in 10 years. Plant and bud hardy to -15 °F (-26°C). Hybridized by Rhein.



Evergreen Azalea: 'Treasure'

Flower white with very faint pink on lobe edges, light pink spotting on dorsal lobe, single, funnel-shaped, 3½" to 4½" across. Truss holds 2-3 flowers. Blooms early midseason. Leaves elliptic, cuneate base, acute apex, flat, light green. Spreading, broad, plant habit. A vigorous grower. Grows to a typical height of about 5 ft. in 10 years. Plant and bud hardy to at least 0°F (-18°C). Hybridized by Morrison.

Previous Mid-Atlantic ROY Winners

Elepidote Rhod.:	Lepidote Rhod.:	Evergreen Azaleas:	Deciduous Azaleas:
2018: 'A. Bedford'	2018: '24-Karat'	2018: 'Dreamsicle'	2018: <i>R. arborescens</i>
2017: 'Gilbert Myers'	2017: 'Blaney's blue'	2017: 'Ben Morrison'	2017: <i>R. canescens</i>
2016: <i>R. hyperythrum</i>	2016: <i>R. minus var. minus</i>	2016: 'Inch'	2016: <i>R. atlanticum</i>
2015: 'John C. White'	2015: 'Southland'	2015: 'Ashley Ruth'	2015: 'My Mary'
2014: 'Nestucca'	2014: 'Kehr's White Ruffles'	2014: 'Caitlin Marie'	2014: <i>R. calendulaceum</i>
2013: 'Taurus'	2013: 'Cornell Pink'	2013: 'Rose Greeley'	2013: <i>R. schlippenbachii</i>
2012: 'Janet Blair'	2012: 'Windbeam'	2012: 'Sandra's Green Ice'	2012: 'Aromi Sunny-side-up'
2011: 'Brown Eyes'	2011: 'Molly Fordham'	2011: 'Tina's Whorled'	2011: <i>R. prunifolium</i>
2010: 'Scintillation'	2010: 'Mary Fleming'	2010: 'Carrie Amamda'	2010: 'Klondyke'
2009: 'Wheatley'	2009: 'Landmark'	2009: 'Koromo-shikibu'	2009: 'Old Gold'
2008: 'Mist Maiden'	2008: 'Weston's Aglo'	2008: 'Dream'	2008: 'White Lightning'
2007: 'Caroline'	2007: 'Olga Mezitt'	2007: 'Fairfax'	2007: (none)
2006: 'Bellringer'	2006: 'PJM Elite'	2006: 'Elsie Lee'	2006: 'Homebush'
2005: 'Calsap'	2005: 'Dora Amateis'	2005: 'Nancy of Robin Hill'	2005: 'Gibraltar'
2004: 'Gigi'	2004: 'April Pink'	2004: 'Girard's Fuchsia'	2004: 'Crimson Tide'

Plant Labels are available for Chapter Members

In cooperation with Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens, plant labels are made for VF ARS members from January through March. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Wright (steve@jenkinsarboretum.org).

Eligibility: Labels will be made **only** for members and only for their **own use**. The sequence of orders processed will give priority to active members.

Description: The product is a permanent, laser-engraved, black anodized aluminum plant label. Each will measure $\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide by 3 inches long and will come with rounded corners and a pre-punched hole for hanging. Hanging wire is the responsibility of the member (small diameter bell wire is recommended).

Quantity: 120 labels maximum per order/member.

Cost: \$30.00 for 1 to 40 labels, \$50 for 41 to 80 labels, and \$70 for 81 to 120 labels. Checks should be made out to “Valley Forge Chapter, ARS”, and the money will be passed on to Jenkins.

Instructions for submitting:

Create a document, preferably in Microsoft Word or similar program, that lists all plant tags to be made. Be sure to write the names *exactly* as you would like them to appear on the label – capitalization, spelling, quotes, etc. must be carefully reviewed before submission. Jenkins staff will review the document, recommend edits, and confirm those edits before any label-making will take place. For single-line labels, the list is simple. If double-

line labels are desired, simply put the second line in parentheses.

Single Line Examples:

- R. mucronulatum
- R. x ‘Hershey’s Red’
- ‘Koromo Shikibu’

Double Line Examples:

- R. fortunei (‘Lushan’)
- R. x ‘PJM’ (Weston Hybrid)
- ‘Anna Kehr’ (Kehr Hybrid)

Notes:

- 1) No line on a plant label can be longer than 26 characters (including spaces).
- 2) The format is yours, i.e., it may be ‘P.J.M.’ or just P.J.M. Plant names should not be abbreviated.

Checking label information: After you have prepared your list (as outlined above), thoroughly check and recheck using your own resources. As mentioned earlier, the Jenkins staff will thoroughly review and offer suggested modifications, but it would be very helpful to have someone else give your list a check ahead of time. It cannot be emphasized enough how important it is to check the labels for accuracy as they cannot be corrected once engraved. Inaccuracies may pass on false information on numerous occasions (plant sales, flower/truss shows, cuttings exchanges, garden tours).

Engraving label information: The final plant list should be emailed to Steve Wright at: steve@jenkinsarboretum.org, with ‘metal plant labels’ in the subject line.



ARSStore.org

Where every purchase benefits the American Rhododendron Society

Using ARSStore.org is now Quick ‘n Easy

Amazon.ARSStore.org	
Target.ARSStore.org	
Walmart.ARSStore.org	

After you use one of these links, when you start typing it again, some browsers will fill in the link automatically.

**American Rhododendron Society
Valley Forge Chapter
14 Northwoods Rd
Radnor, PA 19087**



NEWSLETTER
March / April 2019

ARSStore.org
Where every purchase benefits the American Rhododendron Society



Congratulations to the ARS Greater Philadelphia Chapter for winning a Gold Medal at the 2019 Philadelphia Flower Show

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<p>Page 2 Mar. 21, 2019: Andrew Schenck, Sam Browns Wholesale Nursery: "Nursery Production Techniques: From A Grower's Perspective"</p>	<p>President: Jerry O'Dell (610) 608-2018 Vice President: Alice Horton (610) 430-0196 Treasurer: Bob Smetana (610) 688-5249 Secretary: Joan Warren (484) 369-8103</p>
<p><i>Apr: 14: GPARS Banquet with Photographer Karl Gercens</i></p>	<p>Directors:</p>
<p>Page 3 ARS 2019 Convention at The Desmond Volunteer for the ARS 2019 Convention</p>	<p>Perc Moser ('18-'21) (610) 525-3651 Kathy Woehl ('18-'21) (610) 688 9173 Bob Horton ('17-'20) (610) 430-0196</p>
<p>Page 4 ARS 2019 Convention Daily Schedule</p>	<p>Michele Hawk ('17-'20) (610) 687-9120</p>
<p>Page 5 2019 Rhododendrons of the Year</p>	<p>Steve Wright ('16-'19) (267) 481-0175</p>
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<p>Page 7 Plant Labels are available for Members</p>	<p>Membership: Darlene Henning (610) 987-6184</p>
<p>Page 9 2019 VF ARS Plant Sale Flyer</p>	<p>Newsletter Editor: Steve Henning (610) 987-6184</p>
<p>ARS websites:</p>	<p>Plant Sale: Alice Horton (610) 430-0196</p>
<p>rhododendron.org ARSStore.org</p>	<p>Plants-for-Members with Greater Philadelphia Chapter</p>
<p>ARSOoffice.org ARS2019.org</p>	<p>Truss Show (VF): Debby Schmidt (610) 388-8573</p>
	<p>Webmaster: Steve Henning (610) 987-6184 VF Chapter's web site: ValleyForgeARS.org</p>

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).



'Valley Forge'

The American Rhododendron Society

VALLEY FORGE CHAPTER

2019 Plant Sale

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens

631 Berwyn Baptist Road, Devon, PA 19333

Azaleas/Rhododendrons – Perennials – Wildflowers – Trees

Opening-Night Party/Pre-Sale (see below)

Friday May 3 6-9 p.m.

Public Plant Sale

Saturday May 4 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday May 5 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Rain or Shine—Cash, Checks and Credit Cards

Opening-Night Party and Pre-Sale

(each advance reservation receives a \$5 discount coupon)

FRIDAY, May 3, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Deadline for Party Reservations: April 30

_____persons \$40.00/person Total: \$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Send check, payable to Valley Forge Chapter, American Rhododendron Society,
to Valley Forge Chapter ARS, 14 Northwoods Road, Radnor, PA 19087-3708

Sale proceeds benefit horticultural, conservation, and educational efforts, including Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens.

Directions: www.ValleyForgeARS.org or www.JenkinsArboretum.org

Valley Forge Chapter
American Rhododendron Society
14 Northwoods Road, Radnor, PA 19087
www.ValleyForgeARS.org

FIRST-CLASS MAIL



2019 Plant Sale

*The Valley Forge Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society
always offers exceptional plants, many not in the trade.*

**The selections offered and the varieties in bloom may vary from year to year.
(Native plants have not been collected in the wild.)**

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Rhododendrons</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Hostas & Ferns</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Azaleas</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Wildflowers and other perennials</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Mountain Laurels</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other shrubs and trees</i> |

Open & free to the public: The American Rhododendron Society International Convention

Juried Flower Show & Plant Sale

of rhododendrons and azaleas

Saturday, May 18, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Desmond Hotel Malvern

1 Liberty Blvd, Malvern, PA 19355

For directions: <http://www.desmondgv.com/>