

# Rhododendron



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## Great Lakes Chapter American Rhododendron Society

### Purpose

A Nonprofit organization whose aim is to promote in the Great Lakes region the objectives of The American Rhododendron Society to encourage interest in and dissemination of information about genus rhododendron including azaleas; to provide a medium through which all persons interested may communicate and operate with others of like interest through educational and scientific studies, meetings, publications and similar activities.

### Meetings

Meetings are held four times each year, on the third weekend of March, May, August and October, unless otherwise indicated.

### Membership

Membership is open to all persons interested in the growth and culture of rhododendrons and azaleas as per the Chapter By-Laws. Those persons interested in becoming a member should contact the Membership Chairman, Dr. L. Gordon Walters.

### Officers/Board Members

<b>President</b>	Dr. Steve Krebs	440.428.3966
	skrebs@holdenarb.org	
<b>1st V. Pres.</b>	Bert Hendley	740.452.4523
<b>2nd V. Pres.</b>	Don Whitney	440.516.1867
<b>Secretary</b>	Jill Griesse	740.587.3736
<b>Treasurer</b>	Margaret Corbin	814.833.7207
<b>Membership</b>	Dr. L.G. Walters	724.287.2047
<b>Newsletter *</b>	Annette Pizzino	440.248.4583
<b>Web Master</b>	Linda Stull	lmsgardener@yahoo.com

**Past President** Chas Wagner

### Board of Directors

Dr. Jim Browning	Blanche Browning	6 year term
Linda Stull	Kay Walters	4 year term
Karen Wagner	Eric Oesterling	2 Year term

### Great Lakes Chapter Website

[www.greatlakesrhodies.org](http://www.greatlakesrhodies.org)

Username—great lakes password—maximum

\*GLC newsletter posted to website quarterly

### Cover:

**Rhododendron, 'Harold Amateis'  
Briar Hill Garden Parke,  
Fairview, Pennsylvania**

**Photo source, Blossom McBrier**

### Note:

**Combined March/May newsletter plus:  
Complete ARS Convention 2014 format.  
The new ARS Online Store—  
50th Anniversary RSG RhodyGarden.org**

## President's Message

Hello fellow members,

As the winter solstice approaches, we can reflect back on a very active and productive season for the Great Lakes Chapter. Two major achievements – assisting financially with the construction of the Rhododendron Discovery Garden at The Holden Arboretum and agreeing to host the 2014 American Rhododendron Society Convention in Concord, Ohio – were initiated during Chas Wagner's tenure as President and have been/will be completed by next spring. These are projects that make our chapter an active player in rhododendron education and outreach at the regional and national levels and are at the core of our group's mission.

The ARS national convention is an opportunity to show people from around the country (and possibly the world) that a broad diversity of rhododendrons and azaleas can be successfully grown in continental climates where few grow naturally. Our chapter has a strong heritage of hybridizers who have created a rich palette of rhododendrons for us to enjoy, and we will be sharing many of these plants (from David Leach, Tony Shammarello, Lanny Pride, Weldon Delp, Robert Blough, Pete Girard, Mark Konrad,\* Tom Ring, Joe Gable, and others) with visitors at our convention plant sale. In addition, there will be a full program of day tours to gardens and evening speakers that will highlight our Midwest experience and impress even the most jaded rhododendron connoisseur from the Pacific Northwest. Annette Pizzino has put a great deal of work into the convention agenda that appears in this newsletter and will be appearing in the Winter 2014 issue of the Journal ARS.

Please consider attending the event and getting involved. We seem to be a core group of about 30 members who have been meeting and planning thus far, but the number needed to run the event – bus captains, plant sale workers, registration, auction, hospitality – could be greater. Our March meeting (at The Holden Arboretum on March 15) will be the last opportunity to plan details prior to the Big Show in May. Meanwhile, have a fun and relaxing holiday and a happy New Year.

Steve Krebs

*\* The Mark Konrads have moved—see bottom page three notes, for new info—very special opportunity to select, mature, Mark Konrad rhododendron hybrids. Susan Kaminski letter*

## "Polar Vortex" - Winter 2014

**January 2014 frigid lows, records set for low winter temperatures, not seen in two decades. Take notes, while this info is fresh in your mind, with the observable results to your rhodos. I have my eye on: 'Dream of Kings,' 'Very Berry', (hardy, Tulsa Oklahoma)— and the new 'Holden's Solar Flair' full of buds -plus others. (Consider duration of cold, up/down temperature periods, snow cover, winter sun,) Let us know, We will share info on this event. annettepizzino@roadrunner.com**



The ARS online store, [ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org), is open. Please let your members know in emails, newsletters, and on your websites. Here is the story:

## [ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org) - The new ARS Online Store

### Every purchase benefits the ARS

At the October 4, 2013, American Rhododendron Society Board of Directors meeting, the Board authorized the creation of an online ARS site that would not be selling items but would link to other providers. The online store was authorized to develop a relationship with Amazon as an affiliate store. The online store was also authorized to use the ARS logo and name to sell "ARS" merchandise. Product providers accessed through the ARS online store at [ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org) pay referral fees directly to the ARS on sales made from [ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org) referrals. These fees from sales referrals go 100% directly to the ARS. [ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org) has no expenses, only earnings.

The store has three divisions:

- **ARS Logo Merchandise:** featuring knit, woven and denim shirts, caps, visors, and computer briefcases.
- **Amazon Merchandise:** featuring Rhododendron & Azalea Books, Garden Books, Garden Tools, and any other item sold on Amazon.
- **Participating Merchants:** featuring other merchants who agree to give referral fees to the ARS for each purchase when you mention [ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org).

To access each division, just go to [ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org) and from there select what interests you. If you don't see an item, just use the Amazon search feature. Amazon sells just about everything. You get the same low Amazon prices from the ARS store, but by using it the ARS gets a fee for referring you. As long as you go to Amazon from [ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org) before making a purchase, the ARS gets a referral fee.

[ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org) has the Main Store, a Canadian Store and a European Store. Canadians and Europeans can use the Main Store which uses [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), but the shipping can be expensive. The Canadian Store uses [Amazon.ca](http://Amazon.ca), a Canadian affiliate, which carries many of the same things. If [Amazon.ca](http://Amazon.ca) has the item, the shipping within Canada will probably cost less. The European Store uses Amazon stores in the UK, Germany, France, Spain and Italy which can offer lower cost shipping within Europe. Do not go to the other Amazon stores directly from [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com). If you do, your purchase will not qualify for a referral fee. Go to [ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org) first and use links from there.

You may wonder if people who are not members of the ARS may use [ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org). Yes, most certainly! The objective of creating the ARSSStore website is to raise money for the ARS. The more money we raise, the better it is for the ARS. Invite all of your friends to use it. Invite your favorite nurseries to add links to [ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org).

The referral rate starts at 4%. If a total of 7 or more items are purchased from Amazon in a month, the rate is 6% or more. Typically it will be between 6% and 6.5%. It is 17% on ARS Logo Merchandise.

At [ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org), every purchase you make results in a contribution to the ARS at no additional cost either to you or to the ARS.



[ARSSStore.org](http://ARSSStore.org)

*Where every purchase benefits the  
American Rhododendron Society*

Note: there is a variety of web ads at <http://arsstore.org/about2.php>  
and a variety of higher resolution print ads at <http://arsstore.org/about3.php>

Dear ARS Newsletter Editors,

The Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden in Federal Way, Washington, is preparing a special event to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Garden! This event is being held April 24-26, 2014 and we would like to invite all members of the American Rhododendron Society to attend. Speakers include David Chamberlain, Harold Greer, Douglas Justice and Steve Hootman. The full schedule of events as well as registration information and a link to the hotel is available on the RSF website, RhodyGarden.org.

I'm attaching a poster which includes the website, dates, events and hotel, which could be used in your electronic newsletter. Would you please add this information to your next newsletter as the cut-off for early registration is March 1. Any help in publicizing this special event to the membership is appreciated. I do believe that all rhododendron lovers would enjoy the opportunity to attend if possible.

Thanks for your help!

Jeanine Smith  
RSF Board Secretary

**April 25 to 26**

**REGISTER NOW**

*Early Registration \$65 / After March 1st \$75*  
*Meals Additional*

**Register at RhodyGarden.org**

**1964  
TO  
2014**

*Everyone  
Welcome*

**Speakers:**  
David Chamberlain, Harold Greer, Steve Hootman, Douglas Justice

**Garden & Nursery Tours, Reception & Banquet**  
at the Hampton Inn & Suites &  
the Weyerhaeuser Corporate Headquarters



BITS BY BEV

Great Lakes Chapter Fall Meeting, October 19, 2013, Butler Pa.  
 First order of business, thanking Dr. Spike” and Kay Walters for hosting the past two meetings. Personal advice to both of them: the only thing wrong with continually doing an excellent job of hosting meetings is you will continue to be asked to host them!!  
 The agenda for the afternoon was discussing, step by step the plans for the Great Lakes May 2014 National meeting. The theme is “Every garden tells a story”. Chas Wagner our National Show Chairman presented every detail planned for the meeting. He requested all members input into same. With limited space, I will present a few items that were discussed, Fees, Hotels, Hospitality, Publicity, Speakers, Busses, Picture contest sizes, (8 x 10, 11 x 14 only), Plants, Plant Sales, Judging, etc. etc. As one can see, hosting a National Meeting does take a lot of preparation. Having a top notch Chairman namely, Chas Wagner along with his hard working committee’s, are putting together plans for an excellent Convention.

Later in the afternoon the winners from the May 18, 2013 Truss show were presented with their ribbon awards, Dr. Jim Browning’s entry of “Fantastica” was best in show. He was giving a Gardening book of his choice and also a bottle of wine. Congratulations to all.  
 Our plant auctioneer for the evening was Carl Sutherland, assisted by Chas Wagner.

Dinner finally arrived, Yea!! Good choices Kay!!  
 The evening program was presented by Dr. Jim Browning, topic:

“The Pride of Butler - Lanny Pride”

Going back in time to the 1970’s. Jim and family along with two other families were on a picnic, they noticed some different looking flowers growing near them, “What were they”, wild flowers? After Jim read a book “Rhododendron’s of the World”, he was “hooked”, as a bonus, they were found to be growing in his area. In time he met Lanny Pride, a local nurseryman by trade, who had test gardens on his property full of Rhodie’s. Their friendship grew; Jim became a student of Lanny’s knowledge of plants. After Lanny’s death in 1983, Jim and friends had permission to obtain many of Lanny’s plants, which by now, were in overgrown gardens once owned by Lanny. It took over three years to move the plants. With all of Jim’s knowledge, he continued testing Lanny’s plants but, by this time they were growing on Jim’s property near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Through a slide presentation, there is no doubt about the success of his Pride collection. Have you ever seen the Jim & Blanche gardens? What a treat, it makes one feel humble.

“Friendship is a sheltering tree”  
 -Samuel Taylor Coleridge

SECRETARY NOTES BY GAIL POTTER

- Officers and Board members met at 10:00 am on October 19, 2013 at Conley Resort, Butler, Pa.
- .A discussion of the 2014 ARS Convention was held. Ideas were shared.
- In attendance: Chas/Karen Wagner, Jim/Blanche Browning, Eric Oesterling, Steve Krebs, Carl Sutherland, Bev/Harold Berg, Marge/Harry Johnson, Bob Frenzel, Gail /Tim Potter, Annette/Tony Pizzino, Blossom McBrier, Bert/Susan Hendley, Ray Walylko, John Guyton, Kay/Spike Walters, Brett Bosley
- At 1:15 pm President Steve Krebs convened the general membership meeting with 22 people in attendance. The minutes as printed the GLC newsletter were accepted.
- TREASURER REPORT: Money was transferred to the Convention Account as start-up money. At present \$2875.14 is in the checking account and \$15,205.78 is in the GLC—CD
- Nominations for District Director and Associate Director were accepted. Those nominated will be forwarded to Laura Grant, ARS Executive Director.
- CONVENTION CHAIRMAN , Chas Wagner presented a power point proposal for the 4 days of the convention. Members were able to view and make suggestions and changes to times, costs, and events. Annette sent 7 pages to Journal American Rhododendron Society describing the tours, speakers, agenda, registration etc., this will appear end of January in the winter issue.
- A total budget of approximately \$10,200 finalized.
- A plant sale followed the meeting and a delicious dinner arranged by Host, Kay Walters was enjoyed. Jim Browning gave an informative talk on Lanny Pride and his nursery.

*P. S. Gail and Tim Potter made a presentation at the November 10th meeting of the Mason Dixon Chapter. Great interest was shown by Mason Dixon Chapter members. Don Hyatt volunteered to take the publicity materials to the Mid Atlantic and Potomac Valley meetings*

*Respectively submitted, Gail Potter*

Availability of Mark Konrad hybrid rhododendrons.\*

**My husband and I recently bought property from Dr. Mark Konrad and his wife Jane. The property is spectacular with Dr. Konrad’s rhododendrons and we are doing our best to design a house that will be built with minimal impact on the plants. We are in the process of moving some smaller plants to other parts of the property, the majority will be able to stay put. Unfortunately, there are some larger rhododendrons that we are unlikely to move ..., but will need to be come out. We promised the Konrads that we would contact your society, as this situation occurs. Would you or others in your organization be interested in assessing this situation, and potentially taking some of the plants?**  
**Best regards,**  
**Susan Kaminski**  
**susankaminski@comcast.net 412.741.1430**  
**\*letter sent to Steve Krebs. (Nov.13. 2013)**



**AMERICAN  
RHODODENDRON  
SOCIETY  
CONVENTION**

MAY 15-18, 2014  
PAINESVILLE, OH

**Great lakes Chapter Meeting  
March 15th, 2014**

**ARS Convention 2014 Workshop  
Plants for Members' Sale**

**All members Invited to attend  
Share your input**

**DATE: Saturday March 15th, 2014**

**PLACE: The Holden Arboretum  
9500 Sperry Road  
Kirtland, Ohio 44094 440.946.4400**

**HOST: Steve Krebs**

**PLACES TO STAY:**

**DAYS INN 440.946.0500  
LAWNFIELD INN (BEST WESTERN) 866.205.7378**

**Box Lunch Reservation**

**Margaret Corbin  
1802 Millfair Road  
Erie, PA 16505**

**gramcl@aol.com 814.833.7207  
\$10:00**

**DEADLINE: MARCH 1ST, 2014**

**Make check payable to Great Lakes Chapter/ARS**

**AGENDA:**

**10:00 AM Combined GLC Board and Members' Meeting All welcomed.**

**FOCUS: ARS CONVENTION WORKSHOP plus all updates**

**Final planning, share your info: ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:  
PLANT SALES, HOSPITALITY TABLE, BUS HOSTS, ENTER PHOTOS, AT-**

**LARGE GOOD-WILL- AMBASSADORS, REGISTRATION, SILENT AUCTION.**

**Noon: BREAK FOR LUNCH**

**1:00-4:00 PM ARS Convention Workshop wrap-up; followed by PLANTS FOR MEMBERS SALE**

**SEE EVERYONE: ARS National Convention 2014— MAY 15 -18, 2014**

*Note: review important new registration info, "Day Registration" \$25.00*

**Steering Committees:**

**Chairman—Chas Wagner**

**Treasurer—Karen Wagner**

**Registrar— Margaret Corbin**

**Registration: Margaret Corbin**

**Programs: Steve Krebs, Chas Wagner, Annette Pizzino**

**Site/Motel Selection Gill Griese/Chas Wagner**

**Corporate sponsors: Chas/Karen Wagner & Margaret Corbin**

**Plant Sales: Bert Hendley, John Guyton & Harold Berg—Plant Propagation Ray Walylko,**

**Flower Truss Show: Jim & Blanche Browning**

**Photo Exhibition: Spike Walters, Wolfgang Koger, Tony Pizzino**

**Journal American Rhododendron Society Articles, Tours & Buses Annette & Tony Pizzino, Bus Hosts:**

**Carl Sutherland, George Tomaich, Eric Oesterling, Fred Palmer, Harry Johnson, Gordon Emerson,**

**Great Lakes Chapter Website, Webmaster Linda Stull [www.greatlakesrhodies.org](http://www.greatlakesrhodies.org)**

**Banquets: Karen Wagner, Kay Walters & Lois Edwards**

**Hospitality Committee: Kay Walters, Bev Berg, Gail Potter, Others**

**Financial Committee: Margaret Corbin, Karen Wager & Bob Frenzel**

**Publicity: Carl Sutherland (promo for 2013 convention)**

**Silent Plant Auction: Don Whitney**

**Additional good-will ambassadors needed for all of the above  
[www.GreatLakesRhodies.org](http://www.GreatLakesRhodies.org)**

