



A Joint Convention of the
American Rhododendron Society
and the
Azalea Society of America

A Capital Adventure

2006 ARS/ASA Convention

May 12-15, 2006

Washington, D.C., Suburbs

Rockville, Maryland

Gardens - Tours - Speakers - Banquets - Plants - Flowers - Photography - Friendship

Hotel Reservations:

DoubleTree Rockville

Hotel & Executive Meeting Center

1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852

Phone: 301-468-1100 or 800-222-TREE

Internet: www.rockvillehotel.com

King or Queen Double: \$99.00 plus tax.

Please make room reservations directly with the hotel. To obtain our special conference rate, provide the code "AMR" when registering. Also note that the hotel will release any available rooms in the block we have reserved on April 20.

Convention Hosts:

Mason-Dixon Chapter ARS
Middle Atlantic Chapter ARS
Potomac Valley Chapter ARS
Brookside Gardens Chapter ASA

Contact People:

Jean & Norman Beaudry, Registrars

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Don Hyatt, Convention Co-chair

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Bill Miller, Convention Co-chair

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Website:

For additional information to help plan your trip, please check our convention website:

www.arspvc.org/2006

Registration Deadline: April 5, 2006

The registrar must receive your registration on or before *April 5th* to avoid the late fee. Please register early since space at some events is limited.

Convention Garden Tours

Saturday: 5/13/06 (*Select one*)

Tour A: Private Gardens / Brookside Gardens

This tour will feature five private gardens in Suburban Maryland, all of which are less than 2 acres in size and located but a few minutes from one another. Admire different landscape approaches and the use of azaleas, rhododendrons and companion plants in the gardens of Bill and Janet Miller, Jane and Bob Kinzie, Diane and James Gregg, Nancy and Barry Bosworth, and Glenn and Nancy Thompson.

This tour includes a visit to a major public garden in Maryland, the 54-acre Brookside Gardens, an outstanding horticultural resource in our region. Brookside has eight separate gardens in its complex including a conservatory, rose garden, perennial garden, fragrance garden, aquatic garden, and a large azalea collection.

Tour Cost: \$38.00

Tour B: Baltimore & National Arboretum

The alternative tour for Saturday requires greater travel distances since we will head north to Baltimore to visit Harry Weiskittel's garden and Marshy Point Nursery, a large wholesale operation on the shores of the Chesapeake Bay specializing in rhododendrons and azaleas. We will also see the 4.5-acre woodland garden of Dr. Jerry Hudgens with his collection of rare native plants and wildflowers.

In the afternoon we return to Washington, D.C., to explore the 446-acre U. S. National Arboretum. The Arboretum has many notable collections including Ben Morrison's original azalea plantings on Mount Hamilton, the National Bonsai and Penjing Museum that houses one of the largest collections of dwarf trees in North America, the National Herb Garden, the Asian Valley, and the Gotelli dwarf conifer collection.

Tour Cost: \$38.00

Sightseeing in Washington, D.C.

Attendees or family members may wish to extend their stay on either side of convention to see the many museums, monuments, and other historic landmarks in our Nation's Capital. Most are easily reached via the Metro subway, and there is a station at the DoubleTree Hotel parking lot. Check out our convention website for some sightseeing suggestions:

www.arspvc.org/2006

Sunday: 5/14/05

Tour C: Private Gardens / McCrillis Gardens

We offer only one tour on Sunday and it will feature some of the larger private gardens in the region, those in excess of 2 acres. We will also visit the 5-acre public McCrillis Gardens with its elegant shade garden and large azalea collection.

A major attraction on this tour is Ed and Mary Reiley's lovely 5-acre rhododendron garden, one of the most extensive in our region. Ed is past president of the ARS and has received its Gold Medal.

We will also visit the beautiful landscape of Norman and Jean Beaudry with their 2½-acre garden of rhododendrons, azaleas, maples, dwarf conifers and many companion plants, as well as the original garden of the late George Harding, one of the founders of the ASA. George Harding's grandson, Mike White, and his wife Deb operate an azalea nursery on the premises.

Tour Cost: \$38.00

Monday - Tuesday: 5/15 – 5/16/05

Tour D: Blue Ridge Mountains (*limit 100*)

After the convention, we offer an overnight trip to the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Departing early Monday morning, we will serve a continental breakfast on the bus as we head out for the azalea garden of Phil and Frances Louer. Lunch will be a traditional southern meal at historic Michie Tavern in Charlottesville, followed by a tour of the house and gardens of Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's home.

In the afternoon, we will head south along the Blue Ridge Parkway, admiring mountain views and making occasional stops to see native azaleas and wildflowers in bloom. We will spend the night at the peaceful Peaks of Otter Lodge. Dinner will be on your own at the excellent Peaks of Otter Restaurant.

After breakfast at the Lodge the next morning, we will continue south to Roanoke to see the exquisite mountainside garden of Paul James. We will serve a box lunch on the bus as it heads back to Rockville via the Shenandoah Valley, returning Tuesday evening.

Due to space limitations at the lodge, this tour is limited to 100 people. Please register early and we encourage singles to find roommates. Tour costs include bus transportation, overnight lodging, entry fees, and four meals (2 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches).

Post-Convention Tour Costs:

\$255.00 per person, single occupancy

\$195.00 per person, double occupancy

\$180.00 per person, triple occupancy

Schedule of Events

Friday: May 12, 2006

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM ARS Board Meeting

12:00 Noon - 3:00 PM ASA Board Meeting

1:00 – 7:00 PM Registration open

3:00 – 7:00 PM Plant Sale open

3:00 – 7:00 PM Flower, Photography Show entry

Opening Program

7:00 – 7:30 PM *Welcome*

7:30 – 8:30 PM **Stanton Gill**

“Keeping out the Bad-Boy Pests” - Mr. Gill will discuss two exotic tree pests including the emerald ash borer and the Asian longhorned beetle. Both pests pose serious threats to our forests. He will also talk about low-risk pesticides for use in an integrated pest management program for azalea culture.

8:30 – 9:30 PM **Dr. Harold Sweetman**

“Azaleas and Rhododendrons: Wild Species and Tamed Hybrids” - Dr. Sweetman will discuss his trips to Yunnan (China), Arunachal Pradesh (India) and the Appalachians while relating how hybridizers have transformed wild rhododendron species into new hybrids suitable for our gardens.

9:30 – 10:30 PM **“Yakety Yaks”**

Join us for a late night gathering to make new friends and share with others who have similar interests. We offer two concurrent sessions, each with three short mini-presentations.

Group #1: Native Azaleas

Includes an aerial photo of Gregory Bald.

Group #2: Hybridizers

Includes local rhododendron and azalea hybrids.

9:30 - 11:00 PM Plant Sale, Flower Show open

Additional Food Notes:

Breakfast Buffet: 6:30 – 8:00 AM

To help start the day, the DoubleTree restaurant offers an excellent breakfast buffet. Cost is additional.

Special Dietary Needs: Please identify any special dietary needs or requests for vegetarian meals on the registration form.

Outside Food and Beverage Restrictions:

Maryland law prohibits guests from bringing alcoholic beverages into the hotel. Also, guests should obtain prior approval from the hotel before bringing in any food or non-alcoholic beverages from outside sources.

Saturday: May 13, 2006

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM ***Garden Tours*** (*Select one*)

Tour A - Private Gardens / Brookside Gardens

Tour B - Baltimore / U.S. National Arboretum

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM Plant Sale Open

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM Happy Hour

6:30 - 8:00 PM ***Saturday Buffet***

8:00 – 9:00 PM **Dr. Hartwig Schepker**

“The Diversity of Rhododendron Habitats - A Journey to Natural Stands in Asia and North America” – Dr. Schepker will focus on the diversity of the genus Rhododendron as he relates some of his explorations into remote rhododendron areas in mainland and southeast Asia and in North America, including natural stands in Nepal, Yunnan, Borneo, and in the Great Smoky Mountains in the eastern US.

9:00 – 10:00 PM ***ASA Annual Meeting***

9:00 – 10:00 PM ***ARS Open Forum***

9:00 - 11:00 PM Plant Sale, Flower Show open

Sunday: May 14, 2006

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM ***Garden Tours***

Tour C - Private Gardens / McCrillis Gardens

4:30 PM - 6:30 PM Plant Sale Open

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Happy Hour

6:30 – 8:00 PM ***Sunday Banquet / Awards***

8:00 – 9:00 PM **Jim Gardiner**

“Rhododendrons and the Royal Horticultural Society... Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow”

Mr. Gardiner will profile the four gardens of the RHS, Wisley in particular, discussing the breadth of the rhododendron and azalea collections, the Rhododendron Trials, and the challenges of growing and promoting the genus.

9:00 – 9:30 PM ***ARS Annual Meeting***

9:30 – 9:45 PM Post-Convention Tour briefing

9:00 - 11:00 PM Plant Sale - Last Chance!

Monday: May 15, 2006

6:30 AM **Post-Convention Tour: Departure**

Tour D - The Blue Ridge Mountains

9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon - ASA Board Meeting

Getting to the Convention:

DoubleTree Rockville

**Hotel & Executive Conference Center
1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852**

By Car:

The DoubleTree Rockville is located in the northwest suburbs of Washington DC with easy access from the Capital Beltway (I-495), or Interstate I-270. Note that the DoubleTree offers complimentary underground parking for guests.

West or South: From I-270, take exit 4A, Montrose Road East. Turn left on Rockville Pike (Rt. 355 North) and continue to the hotel.

North or East: From the northern section of I-495 heading west, take Exit 34 / Route 355 North (Wisconsin Avenue / Rockville Pike). The hotel will be on the right.

By Public Transportation:

Three major airports serve the greater Washington DC region including BWI in Baltimore, MD, Reagan National (DCA) in Alexandria, VA, and Dulles International (IAD) in Chantilly, VA. Shuttle and taxi service are available from the airports, but people can also connect to the Metro Subway System. The Twinbrook Station on the Metro Red Line opens at the hotel parking lot. Both Amtrak and the MARC train serve Rockville.

Flower Show

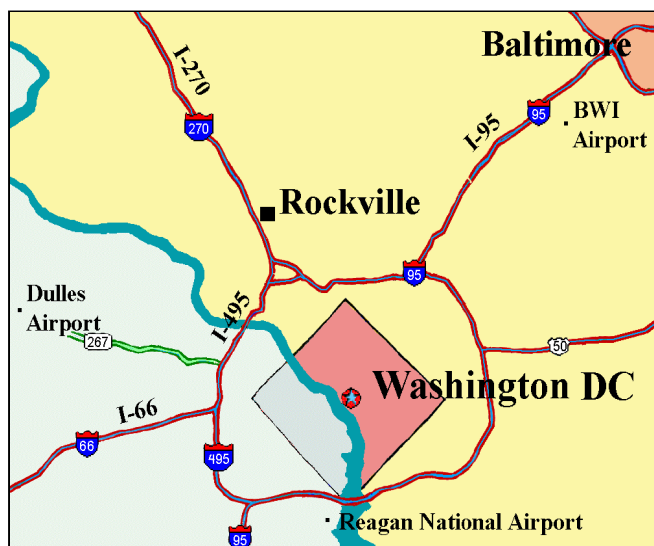
Photography & Art Contest:

For those wishing to enter the Flower Show or the Photography & Art Contest, entries will be accepted from 3:00 – 7:00 PM on the opening day, Friday, May 12. Contest details regarding number of entries and size limitations can be sent by e-mail, regular mail, or found on the convention website.

Society Business:

In addition to board meetings, both the ARS and ASA will have times and space available to conduct society business with their members.

Those who wish to attend the all-day ARS Board Meeting Friday, May 12, are encouraged to register and pay for lunch in advance.



Banquets:

Since we have arranged keynote speakers for both Saturday and Sunday evenings, we have arranged dinners at the DoubleTree both nights also. Saturday night is a buffet, and Sunday is a more formal banquet. Dinners include salad, various side dishes, bread, dessert, and beverage, as well as a plant! Banquet favors are primarily selected rhododendron or native azalea seedlings raised from superior plants observed in the wild.

Please indicate the entree choice on the Sunday night banquet when registering. Guests may also request a vegetarian option.

Saturday Buffet: \$45.00

Roast Beef Au Jus and Grilled Salmon

Sunday Banquet: \$45.00

Roasted Pork Tenderloin or Red Snapper

Plant Sale and CD:

For our plant sale, we have propagated many new azaleas and rhododendrons introduced by local hybridizers, including Sandra McDonald, Buck Clagett, Joe Klimavicz, Walter Przypek, Bob Stewart, Jane Goodrich, George Ring, Pete Vines, Augie Kehr, and others. We also have many rare clones introduced by Joe Gable, Russell and Velma Haag, and Weldon Delp.

If you would like to receive an advance copy of a CD containing images of the varieties in our sale, please include the nominal charge with your registration fees. The CD will be mailed to you with registration confirmation.