

**American Rhododendron Society
TAPPAN ZEE CHAPTER**

Below is the electronic version of the September 2005 Newsletter. You receive this notice as a member of the Tappan Zee e-mail community. However, this month you will also receive a post office mailing containing a return envelope for your annual dues. Please make checks out to Tappan Zee Chapter, ARS, as checks made out to ARS alone are difficult to deposit.

After the April meeting, seven members of our Chapter attended the ARS Annual Convention in Victoria from April 27 to May 1. Those members are pictured below at the closing banquet. Standing are Gus and Lydia Cerini flanking Herb Spady (Willamette) and Jerry van de Sande (Princeton). Seated are Edie Pledger Spady, Mildred and Al Fitzburgh, Jean Lange, and Shirley and Andy Anderson. As you can surmise, the food, the company, and the conversation were really enjoyable, and the speaker provided a double pronged, humorous, memorable experience.



Three Tappan Zee Associate members also attended and posed for the pictures below: Bruce and Marianne Feller (New York) at the banquet and Karel Bernady (Greater Philadelphia) on the Coho Ferry.



The Convention was ideal for weather, content and blooms. The neighborhoods of Victoria as well as the private gardens presented a simply overwhelming display of rhododendron colors. The Victoria Chapter did a fine job in celebration of their 25th anniversary.

**United Methodist Church
130 Berthoud Street
Park Ridge, New Jersey**

**8:00 p.m. Wednesday
September 21, 2005
6:00 p.m. for dinner**

SPEAKER – Werner Brack has been a member of the New York Rhododendron Society for over 39 years. He is a Bronze Medal winner from that society, and has been Treasurer of the ARS as well as the NE Regional Rhododendron Society, and a Director of District 7 of the ARS.

Werner Brack was born in Switzerland and the exactness of his observations on the subject of rhododendrons reflects his heritage. He has investigated, with his usual precision, which species (wild rhododendrons) of the genus will grow best in our area and will present his recommendations to us.

NEW OFFICERS - The chapter is grateful to the Nominating Committee: Pat Walton, Chairperson, and Marvin and Leah Klibonoff, for proposing a slate of candidates. At the April meeting the following members were elected and have agreed to serve as officers for the 2005-2006 term:

President	Gus Cerini
Vice-president	Virginia Shen
Treasurer	Irene Card
Corresponding Secretary	Lydia Cerini
Recording Secretary	Roberta Cripps

Al Fitzburgh has agreed to continue as Program and Plant Sale Chairman and Marvin and Leah Klibonoff will continue as host and hostess for meeting refreshments.

DUES - In addition to this Newsletter, you will receive by surface mail an envelope specifying your dues payment for this year. You may bring your check to the meeting, or return the envelope by mail to Irene Card. If you are an Associate member your dues are

\$8.00. A small portion of the dues is for our local chapter so please be sure to make your check payable to **TAPPAN ZEE CHAPTER, ARS.**

ANNUAL CONVENTION – The Chapter was well represented at the Annual Convention in Victoria with 7 members attending. The talks given were informative and the gardens visited were replete with rhododendron blooms of all sorts and colors.

Next year’s meeting will be a joint Annual Convention with the Azalea Society of America and will take place in Rockville, MD on May 12 – 15. This joint effort in the setting of Washington, DC should prove to be a fruitful and pleasant time. Please keep your calendar free for this event.

GARDEN TOURS - In late May, the Chapter was fortunate to have the opportunity to visit Allan and Shirley Anderson’s garden, with its impressive “Great Smokey” and also the delightful meandering paths of Al and Mildred Fitzburgh’s garden. Their gardens were in profuse bloom, the lunches were delicious, and the camaraderie among rhodophiles was enjoyable. We thank both hosts for their gracious invitation.

NORTHEAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE - The Northeast Regional Conference will be held on November 4 - 6, 2005, in Hightstown, NJ. The agenda will include an international lineup of outstanding speakers and a plant sale featuring 2,500 rhododendrons, azaleas and companion plants. The Conference will also feature a silent auction, a foliage show, a photography contest and a book sale. Tappan Zee, New York, and Princeton Chapters are hosts for this meeting and volunteers are needed to assist with the plant sale and registration and to set up and process entries for the photo and foliage shows. A registration form is in the Summer issue of the ARS Journal. Registration before September 30 is discounted by \$10.00.

PLANT SALE - This year’s sale, which featured a number of larger west coast plants, was the most profitable in our history. The Chapter wishes to thank Al Fitzburgh, Chairman of the Plant Sale, and all those who participated in making this event such a great success.

Al Fitzburgh is currently placing orders for next year’s sale. If any member wishes to order a particular plant, please see or contact Al at 973-226-5796 and he will try to accommodate you.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS – Please put the following dates on your calendar:

Wednesday	September 21	8:00 pm
Wednesday	October 19	8:00 pm
Wednesday	December 7	8:00 pm
Saturday	February 25	2:00 pm
Saturday	March 25	2:00 pm
Saturday	April 22	2:00 pm

The Plant Sale will take place **a week before Mother's Day** on Saturday, May 6
The Fitzburghs will host a picnic meeting on Saturday, May 20.

PROVEN PERFORMERS - The Tappan Zee Proven Performer list was published in the Spring, 2002 issue of the ARS Journal. Recently that list was updated. Anyone interested in obtaining the current list please contact Gus Cerini.

PRE-MEETING SUPPER – Join us for a Dutch Treat dinner at Davey's Locker (6:00pm), just south of Grand Ave. and Kinderkamack Road to meet our speaker and discuss varied topics. "Dutch Treat" does not include alcoholic beverages. Please pick these up at the bar or be sure to pay the waitress separately for them. The meeting begins at 8:00 pm at the church if you cannot join us for dinner at Davey's Locker.

The next meeting will take place on October 19
For directions or any other inquiries call Lydia or Gus Cerini at 845-735-3475