

**American Rhododendron Society
TAPPAN ZEE CHAPTER**

This is the e-mail version of the February Meeting Notice. This month's photo was contributed by Marianne and Bruce Feller. It was obtained from Jens Birck, the speaker from Denmark who entertained us at the Northeast Regional Conference last November. The plant is R. proteoides, and the photo was used as a Christmas greeting. It certainly has the right colors.



If you want your photo shown above send the image to Gus Cerini

I know that many of you have photos and also interesting narratives to go with them. Please post, e-mail (Ccerini@aol.com), or simply hand them to Gus Cerini and they can be shared with the membership.

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

**2:00 p.m. Saturday
February 25, 2006
12:00 noon for dinner**

SPEAKER – Mr. John Doppel, is a little known hybridizer from Lenhartsville, Pennsylvania, who has been hybridizing rhododendrons for 15 years with outstanding success. John has a 10-acre garden which is located on a high elevation in the Lehigh Valley that is exposed, windy and sunny. His presentation will be of general interest because he will show slides of the development of his garden through its seasonal changes focusing not only on rhododendrons but also on his collection of trees and shrubs.

OCTOBER MEETING – At the last meeting, our speaker, Karel Bernady, who, with his wife, Betty, came to us direct from South America where he had to don native dress in order to roam freely with his



camera, presented photographs and commentary based on his many visits to the southern native azaleas which form the backbone of azaleas in this country. His photography was impressive and his narrative instructive.

DON HYATT PRINTS – In 2003, the Chapter was fortunate in obtaining 4 sets of limited edition matched watercolors from the artist Don Hyatt. Since that purchase, these beautiful prints have increased in value. The chapter is offering these prints for sale at the original purchase price. Each set contains two prints, a native azalea, *R. prunifolium*, and an azalea hybrid, Redwing. Each set will cost \$25.00; and an individual print will be priced at \$15.00. The prints will be on display at the meeting.

REFRESHMENTS – Again, we do request that if you intend to bring refreshments to the meeting, you first call Marvin and Leah Klibonoff at 845-354-3421.

BOARD MEETING – A number of items were discussed at a recent meeting of the Tappan Zee Board:

1. It was agreed that stronger efforts should be made to increase the membership of the chapter. The chapter will distribute an eight-page color brochure on the "Fundamentals of Rhododendron Culture" which is published by the American Rhododendron Society to various garden clubs, plant societies, libraries, and nurseries, and mount a concentrated effort to get information about the TZ Chapter to local print and broadcast media. Any member who wishes to assist in this focused activity should contact Gus Cerini.
2. TZ and Princeton officers have also been considering joint activities. Peg Van Patton recently mentioned a possible bus trip to Chanticleer, a thirty-acre garden in Wayne, outside of Philadelphia, which would also include a back stage tour of Longwood Gardens, a thousand-acre garden in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. Such a trip would originate in our location, pick up Princeton members, and proceed to the gardens. I will provide a sheet to indicate your interest at the meeting. Those not attending should indicate interest by contacting Gus.
3. In an effort to promote interaction among chapters, the Board suggested listing upcoming events for both the New York and Princeton Chapters:

Princeton:

- March 19 Annual Banquet
- April 12 Regular Meeting/Plant Sale, 8 PM, First Presbyterian Church, Hightstown, NJ
- April 29 Annual Plant Sale, 8:30 AM, MCCC, Display Garden area, West Windsor, NJ

New York:

- March 12 Member Meeting, Burns Hort. Center, Planting Fields, 2 PM, Sunday (Speaker: K Bernady)
- April 20 Member Meeting, Early Flower Show, Burns Hort. Center, Planting Fields, 7 PM, Thursday
- Apr 28-30 Plant Sale at Old Westbury Gardens
- May 21 Flower Show and Plant Sale, Burns Hort. Center, Planting Fields, 8 AM to 4 PM, Sunday
- June 2 Chapter Dinner
- July 8 Propagation Workshop, The Annex, Planting Fields, 10 AM, Saturday
- July 23 Summer Social, 5-8 PM, Hay Barn Courtyard, Planting Fields, Sunday
- Sep 14 Member Meeting, Burns Hort. Center, Planting Fields, 8 PM, Thursday
- Oct 19 Member Meeting, Burns Hort. Center, Planting Fields, 8 PM, Thursday
- Nov 16 Member Meeting, Burns Hort. Center, Planting Fields, 8 PM, Thursday

Also, the Princeton Chapter Newsletter is promoting more awareness of Associate Memberships with neighboring chapters. These memberships cost \$8:00 and allow you to read their Newsletters and keep aware of their sponsored events. A number of TZ members are Associate Members of other chapters. If you are interested, the chapter contacts in the tri-state area are:

Princeton:	Peg Van Patton	PO Box 339 Skillman	NJ 08558
New York:	Marianne Feller	88 Old Field Road	Old Field, NY 11733-1646
Valley Forge:	Robert Smetana	14 North Woods Road	Radnor, PA 19087
Philadelphia:	Michael Mills	632 Bumham Road	Philadelphia, PA 19119
Lehigh:	Mike Zaia	2535 Back River Road	Bethlehem, PA 18015

HYBRIDIZERS MEETING - A hybridizers meeting will be held Saturday, March 11th at 11AM at the Holly House just off RT 1 South Brunswick NJ. This is a Cross Chapter meeting for anyone interested in hybridizing, and not just for hybridizers only. If you have any pollen to share that you have been storing, extra seeds that you have started, information on growing, slides of new crosses, or anything you want to share, bring them to the meeting, but please let Al Fitzburgh know at 973-226-5796 or at arfitz@earthlink.net so that he can acknowledge you at the meeting. Al suggests you bring a sandwich. Coffee, decaf and regular, will be provided. Please consider taking a desert, cookies or finger food

Directions:

From the Garden State Parkway South: Get off at exit 129 to NJ Turnpike South. After exiting at Exit 9 stay right after toll to RT 18, bear left at the fork to stay on RT 18, and immediately bear right to turn right onto Rt. US 1 south. Follow US 1 South 1/2 mile and take the second exit on the right, Grovers Lane East, and onto the overpass over route US 1 South. On Grovers Lane East after the overpass get immediately in to the left lane to turn left at the sign, Rutger's Gardens. Follow the winding dirt road 1/4 mile to Holly House on the right.

From the Garden State Parkway North: Exit at NJ Turnpike South. After exiting at Exit 9 go to RT 18W, bear left to stay on Rt 18 and then right to the exit for US1 South. Continue for 1/2 mile and follow above directions to Holly House.

ANNUAL CONVENTION - The recent ARS Journal contained all of the information necessary to register for the ARS annual convention which will be held jointly with the Azalea Society of America in Rockville, MD. An accompanying article details events and featured speakers. The meeting starts Friday, May 12 and ends on Monday, May 15, 2006, with garden tours scheduled for Saturday and Sunday. We hope the proximity of the meeting location will encourage many members to attend.

PRE-MEETING SUPPER – Join us for a Dutch Treat dinner at Davey’s Locker (12:00 noon), 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 2:00 p.m. at the church if you cannot join us for dinner at Davey’s Locker.

Tappan Zee 2006 Calendar of Activities:

March 25	Member meeting	Park Ridge, NJ 2:00PM
April 22	Member meeting	Park Ridge, NJ 2:00PM
May 6	Plant sale	Montvale, NJ 9:00AM-12:00PM
May 20	Garden meeting	Caldwell, NJ (Time TBD)

**The next meeting will take place on Saturday, March 25
For directions or any other inquiries call Lydia or Gus Cerini at 845-735-3475.**