

**American Rhododendron Society
TAPPAN ZEE CHAPTER**

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

**2:00 p.m. Saturday
March 21, 2015
12:00 p.m. for lunch**

SPEAKER – Bruce Feller

"True Confessions - A Rhodoholic One Day and A Cone Head the Next".



Bruce and Marianne Feller retired in 1998 from successful business careers in New York City, and assumed full time residence at their Long Island home in Old Field to pursue other interests, largely horticultural. Over the last 26 years, they have designed, installed, and continue to maintain and enhance an extensively planted landscape of two acres, intended to provide a tapestry of color, texture and form. Rhododendron, azalea and Japanese maples are integrated with conifers, large and small, for riotous spring color and seasonal interest throughout the year.

Both Bruce and Marianne are active members of the American Rhododendron Society, each having been awarded the organization's Bronze Medal in 2009.

Bruce has served as President of the ARS New York Chapter, Director of District 7 Chapters, Eastern Vice President, and President of the National Society. Bruce also belongs to the Long Island Horticultural Society, the Azalea Society of America and the American Conifer Society.

Several years ago Bruce and his son Colby installed a dwarf conifer display garden on the Arsenal rooftop in Central Park. Plans call for its expansion this spring by Bruce and Colby under the terms and conditions of a grant from the American Conifer Society. The Arsenal rooftop conifer garden was the subject of an article in the American Conifer Society quarterly.

Bruce's presentation will focus on conifers and the contributions they make throughout the seasons and as companions to other flora.

THE FEBRUARY FLING – Our ninth annual luncheon was a huge success. We were served exceptional hors d'oeuvres at our welcome reception, had an excellent lunch and consumed an unlimited amount of wine. Our thanks go to Irene Card for bringing the affair off so smoothly.

We also were fortunate in having Dick Murcott speak on the past history and the current status of rhododendron culture, all done with an engrossing slide free 45 minute presentation that captivated everyone. You can see how passionate Dick is about the subject here:



(Martin is trying to remember the names of the Ironclads)

Others that were enjoying the affair:



Will we get to see Bernie's pictures?



The hybridizers' table



Arnold must have told Irene an inside joke



Two men pleased



Two men plotting



Two men posing

and lastly, three lovely ladies:



EARLY BLOOMER PHOTOS - There is a good chance that we'll have some early blooms before the April Newsletter goes out on April 9. If you have any flowers, no matter what kind, please email me a picture with the date of first bloom and I'll publish it here.

CURRENT CHAPTER MEMBER LIST – Attached to this Newsletter is the current list of our 36 Tappan Zee members. Phone and email addresses missing are at the request of the members. Any member wishing to supply that information or correct errors can email Gus Cerini at ccerini@aol.com.

PRE-MEETING DINNER – Please join us for a 12:00 noon lunch at Davey's Locker on Kinderkamack Road just below the Railroad Station in Montvale. At our pre-meeting lunches, the total bill is divided equally among the group. However, alcoholic drinks, except for the speaker's, are not allowed onto the totaled bill. Please pay for your alcoholic drink separately.

HOSPITALITY - We always have coffee and tea at our meetings. If you are able to bring a dessert, could you please either call Fran Morton, our Hospitality Chair, at 201-573-0655, or send her an e-mail at fjmorton@juno.com a week before the meeting to let her know what you'll be bringing.

HYBRIDIZER'S MEETING – The 2015 Hybridizer's Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 22, at Rare Find Nursery starting at 10:00 AM. You can tour the Nursery, and buy plants from 10:00 until 12:00. Ron Rabideau will be on hand to help with selecting plants and taking orders. At 12:00 we will have lunch. You can bring your lunch or, if you get there by 11:00, we will order your lunch from a local deli. Please bring a beverage for lunch, RFN will have coffee and doughnuts for early arrivals, but we would appreciate additional donuts, cakes or cookies if you wish to bring them.

After lunch we will be meeting in Hank's House and a room has been fixed up with a large TV monitor that is connected to a computer so that the presenters can show their pictures on the screen by inserting their flash drive in the computer furnished by RFN. Allan Anderson, Werner Brack, Dick Murcott and Mike O'Hara will have programs and if any others would like to show a few of their hybrids or fine plants, they certainly can do so. We will then have a discussion session involving the presenters and anyone who wishes to join in. There will be no equipment for showing slides.

If you have some seedlings or even plants that you are willing to share they will be appreciated. If you have any questions call or email Bud Gehrich, 631-692-6320 or rhodobud@optonline.net.

(Editor's note: Lydia and I are not hybridizers, but thoroughly enjoy attending this meeting. If you are interested in what is being accomplished by our local hybridizers, this meeting is one to attend.)

THE 2015 TAPPAN ZEE MEETING SCHEDULE

March 21	Bruce Feller --Conifers
April 18	Member Show & Tell
May 9	Annual Plant Sale
May (date TBA)	Garden tour & luncheon
May 6-10	ARS Annual Convention, 70th Anniversary, May 6 -10 Sidney, BC Canada,

CHAPTER CONTACTS

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The next meeting will be Saturday, April 18 at 2:00 PM
For directions or any other inquiries call Lydia or Gus Cerini at 845-735-3475