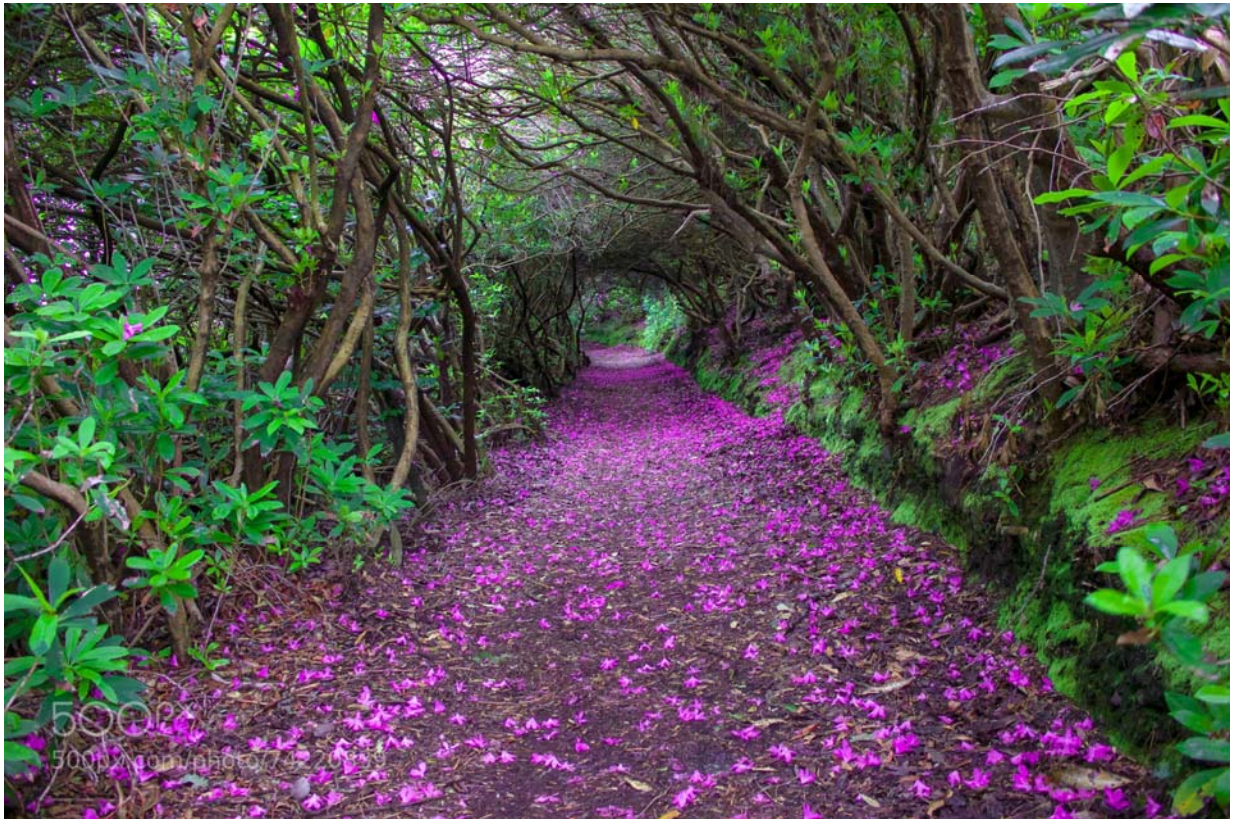


This is the electronic version of the Tappan Zee Chapter's April Newsletter.

**American Rhododendron Society
TAPPAN ZEE CHAPTER**



Natural Rhododendron Tunnels in Reenagross Park, Kenmare Ireland

by Robert Ziegenfuss - See more at:

https://www.google.com/search?q=Reenagross+Park,+Kenmare+Ireland&biw=1920&bih=955&tbm=isch&imgil=3EWz2of5WiSzQM%253A%253B3LixZ5uRChT9XM%253Bhttps%25253A%25252F%25252Fwww.pinterest.com%25252Fpin%25252F35395547046321338%25252F&source=iu&pf=m&fir=3EWz2of5WiSzQM%253A%252C3LixZ5uRChT9XM%252C&usg=__srAEIry1Gp76UZAENOGHeqALOY%3D&ved=0ahUKEwjintahhfvLAhXCGh4KHX0rCywQyjcINg&ei=4oFV6OjMMK1eP3WrOAC#imgrc=3EWz2of5WiSzQM%3A

MEETING INFORMATION

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

**2:00 p.m. Saturday
April 16, 2016
12:00 p.m. for lunch**

A Tappan Zee Smorgasbord

Al Fitzburgh is going to preside at this meeting. He tells me that much will depend on weather and how much bloom has occurred in our gardens. Al wants to have a flower show, but not just azaleas and rhododendrons, this time a show presenting any flowers you have blooming in your gardens, even forsythia.

We'll have a vote by a show of hands and give out prizes to those with the most votes. But if there are no or very few blooms, we'll change the topic from "Early Spring Flower Show" to "A Slide Show on Companion Plants For the Rhododendron Garden" or a slide show on "Early Bloomers in Lydia's Garden", which I am currently shooting.

AUCTION - Depending on the weather conditions before the meeting Al may take in some small named rhododendron plants that are good ones, but that are growing so slowly he may never see them bloom. He also has a few small divisions of peonies. If conditions warrant these will be auctioned off.

ELECTIONS – We neglected to ask for nominations for elected offices last month, so at this meeting we will ask for nominations and hold a voice vote. The offices are President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary. All offices are up for election.

APOLOGY – In last month's Newsletter, due to a cut and paste error in loading photographs, two sentences thanking Jim Fry for the presentation he gave us as our February Fling Speaker were inadvertently omitted. Here are the sentences:

“Our speaker, Jim Fry, did a beautiful job of presenting the evolution of his garden from architecture to cats, and finished with a comprehensive lecture on the identification of the weeds prevalent in our gardens. We appreciated the effort he put into his presentation and also thank him for his successful bids on the Don Hyatt prints.”

THE MARCH MEETING - Al Fitzburgh again provided a hands on demonstration of how to root rhododendrons and azaleas. His program was advertised in local newspapers and drew four non-members. Al provided and carried in all of the materials necessary, in spite of recovering from hip surgery. It was certainly worth his effort, everyone was thoroughly pleased with the program. The Chapter is grateful to Al for sharing his expertise with the members and guests present.

2016-17 PROGRAM CHOICES – Al Fitzburgh, our regular Program Chairman, has decided to step back from this chore that he has been dealing with for many years and instead will be available for help on choosing program topics and speakers. I have started to contact potential speakers, but this is a great opportunity for members at this meeting to let me know the topics (and/or speakers) they would like to hear presented.

LINKS – An interesting article about rescuing rhododendrons:

<http://www.mooseycountrygarden.com/garden-design/rhododendron-rescue.html>

How Rhododendrons Invade and Conquer (except on my property)
<http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2014/10/101614-fralin-rhododendrons.html>

HOSPITALITY – Mildred Fitzburgh, our Hospitality Chair, has sent the following notice to members who serve as hospitality hosts:

“In order to eliminate the need to arrive early at the meeting place to start the big coffee urn, it was agreed that each month the hosts and hostesses will choose the desserts to be served and it is up to them to select the beverage as well. Since the coffee at Dunkin Donuts is very expensive, the hostess can bring ice tea, cider, juice or soda. The hostesses are selected in alphabetical order.

I will make an announcement at lunch preceding the meeting, that those who would like a cup of coffee to order it with their lunch at Davey's. I will also make an announcement at the meeting.

I will bring the container with paper goods, sugar, etc. To each meeting.”

The hosts for this meeting are Don and Ellen Stoneham and Martin Winkler

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.

THE 2015-2016 TAPPAN ZEE MEETING SCHEDULE

April 16	Flower show (Winter cooperating)
May 7	Annual Plant Sale
May 15	Garden tour & Luncheon hosted by the Fitzburgh's

CHAPTER CONTACTS

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Mildred Fitzburgh	973-226-5796
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The next meeting will be on September 17, 2016 at 2:00 PM
For directions or any other inquiries call Lydia or Gus Cerini at 845-735-3475