

P.O. Box 715 Southeastern, PA 19399-0715

Web site: [www.ValleyForgeARS.org](http://www.ValleyForgeARS.org)

## ***NEWSLETTER***                      ***May / June 2015***

Unless specified otherwise, meetings are at Jenkins Arboretum in Devon
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### ***Calendar at a Glance***

- May 1-3 (Fri-Sun.) Valley Forge Chapter's Plant Sale at Jenkins Arboretum  
May 7-10 (Th-Su) American Rhododendron Society's Annual Convention in Sydney, BC  
May 10 (Sun.) Joint Greater Philadelphia/Valley Forge Flower Show at Jenkins Arboretum  
June 28 (Sun.) Annual Chapter Meeting and Picnic at Chanticleer at 11:00 a.m.  
August 16 (Sun.) District 8 Cuttings Exchange and Auction at Wayne Guyman's

### ***President's Message***

Calling all volunteers! Our biggest two events of the years are right around the corner. Volunteers are needed for the plant sale on May 1, 2, & 3 and the week leading up to it. Help is needed to unload trucks and organize plants at various times between April 27 and 30. Contact committee chair Chris Smetana ([cpsmetana@yahoo.com](mailto:cpsmetana@yahoo.com)) to volunteer.

Committee chair Debby Schmidt can use your assistance on May 9 and 10 for the annual Cut Flower Competition at Jenkins. This is a joint program with the Greater Philadelphia Chapter. We also need everyone to bring flower/trusses to enter into the competition. Don't worry about prepping them, just keep them hydrated and someone will assist you with the prep and entry.

All ribbons and trophies will be awarded at the annual picnic, June 28 at Chanticleer Gardens. At Chanticleer's request the picnic starts at 11am this year and parking is limited. You can consolidate passengers nearby either at the Radnor Public Library or the Willows of Radnor Twp. Directions can be found at [chanticleergarden.org](http://chanticleergarden.org).

Bob Smetana  
(610) 688-5249  
[vfarssmetana@yahoo.com](mailto:vfarssmetana@yahoo.com)

***Visit the Chapter's web site: [www.ValleyForgeARS.org](http://www.ValleyForgeARS.org)***

2015

## ANNUAL PLANT SALE

### Jenkins Arboretum

631 Berwyn Baptist Road, Devon, PA 19333

Opening-Night Party and Preview Plant Sale (see below)

*Friday May 1 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.*

Public Plant Sale

*Saturday May 2 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.*

*Sunday May 3 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.*

### Rain or Shine

Cash and Checks accepted (no credit cards)

**Chair:** Chris Smetana (610) 688-5249  
[cpsmetana@yahoo.com](mailto:cpsmetana@yahoo.com)

**This is the big event of the year!** As always, we will have a fine selection of rhododendrons, azaleas, and “companion plants”, such as other shrubs, small trees, including Japanese Maple, and choice perennials.

**Friday Party & Presale:** If your reservation for the Friday evening, May 1, Party and Presale is received by April 27, you will receive a **\$5 discount on your plant purchase.** The Friday event is from 6 pm to 8 pm. A reservation form is below, more are on line at:

<http://rhodyman.net/ValleyForgeARSPlantSale.pdf>

**Help is needed and appreciated.** Expert or novice, please commit yourself when called, or just show up on public sale days (May 2 and 3). Snacks/food and beverages will be provided.

**Kids Table:** Debby Schmidt asks members to think of plants they can pot up (no bare root, please, even if you are weeding....) and bring to the VF ARS Plant Sale. Sale prices should be marked before the sale starts by the donor and in the \$0.05 to \$0.50 range. No adults at this table until Sunday please. Suggestions: Daisies, rose campion, ferns, feverfew, woolly lambs ear, asters... No poisonous plants, please!

**Plant donations are also welcome.** Please pot up your surplus garden gems as soon as possible, so they look good at the time of the sale, label them with their Latin or common names, and, if possible, bring them by **Thur., April 30.** Many customers head first to the donations, which can add tremendously to the success of the sale, the proceeds of which benefit a number of horticultural, conservation, and educational efforts.

*\*Opening-Night Party and Preview Plant Sale*

**FRIDAY, May 1 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.**

*Deadline for Party Reservations: April 30*

\_\_\_\_\_persons \$30.00/person Total: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Send check, payable to **Valley Forge Chapter, American Rhododendron Society,**  
to **P.O. Box 715, Southeastern, PA 19399-0715**

*Reservations will be used in the drawing of door prizes Friday evening*

# Rhododendron and Azalea Flower Show at Jenkins Arboretum

## Sunday, May 10 (Mother's Day)

**Chair:** Debby Schmidt (610) 388-8573

We're looking forward to our 7th year of the joint Greater Philadelphia and Valley Forge Chapters combined flower/truss show competition and the 21st year of VF chapter's show. To make this the stunning and highly educational juried display that it has been in previous years, members of all area chapters are again encouraged to bring entries. We will

begin accepting entries at 7:30 am on the upper level of the education center at Jenkins. Entries must be in by 10:15 am, and judging will begin at 10:30. The show will be open to the public from 1-5pm that day.

Help will be available, especially to those who haven't entered before—so don't be hesitant. Classification lists will be available on the VFARS website [www.valleyforgears.org](http://www.valleyforgears.org).

### ENTRY RULES

1. There is no registration fee.
2. All entries must be received at the show passing table between 7:30 and 10:15 a.m. on Sunday. Entries offered after 10:15 a.m. will be assigned to the conversation table and are not eligible for judging.
3. All entries must be from plants grown outdoors in the garden for no less than 6 months.
4. Only one entry of a variety may be made in each section by any member or family. However, any number of different varieties may be entered in a section.
5. Elepidote rhododendron entries shall be a single bud truss with preferably no more than 3 unopened flowers.
6. Azalea, azaleodendron and lepidote rhododendron entries shall be either a single stemmed spray or a single or multiple truss measuring not more than 14 inches in width and height above the container.
7. Classes 1 through 8 and 10 are for cut bloom entries only. Wedges may be used for staging entries. Display containers will be provided.
8. A specimen plant may be one that is grown in a container or one that is garden grown and is dug and placed in a container, to be supplied by exhibitor. Size limit: 30" in width and 48" in height above soil.
9. Exhibitors must complete an entry tag for each entry. Tags will be available at the show; the Show committee will assist as needed. Use a

pencil or a waterproof pen to fill out your tag, both top and bottom parts. Enter your name (address labels appropriate) and other information ahead of time. For plants grown from ARS Seed Exchange seed, lot number, year listed and name of seed contributor must be stated.

10. Any hybrid that is named, though not necessarily registered, and has not been exhibited in a V.F. Chapter show (i.e., is not on the current classification lists) may be entered in Class 7 but should have an appropriate permanent classification number. If necessary, confer with classification committee.

11. All entries should be properly groomed and conditioned. Artificial shine cannot be used on foliage. Leaf margins cannot be trimmed. Refer to CUTTING TRUSSES FOR SHOW on back page.

12. Classification and placement will be by the Show Committee. A class or section may be subdivided when deemed appropriate.

13. Judging will start at 10:45 a.m. Only the show and clerk's chairmen and judges and clerks are allowed in the exhibit area during judging.

14. Judges, at their discretion, may award ribbons for first, second and third places in each section. Honorable Mention will be awarded when appropriate. Any award can be omitted. Two or more of second or lower awards may be awarded.

15. The show will be open to the public from 1 to 5 p.m. Exhibits, but not trophies and ribbons, may be claimed at the close of the show on Sunday. The Committee will dispose of exhibits not claimed.



**Picnic and Annual Meeting**  
**Sunday, June 28, starting at 11 a.m.**  
**At Chanticleer, 786 Church Road, Wayne, PA 19087**

Parking is limited so people should carpool as much as possible. The Radnor Township event park "The Willows" and the Radnor public library are suggestions for consolidating passengers near Chanticleer.

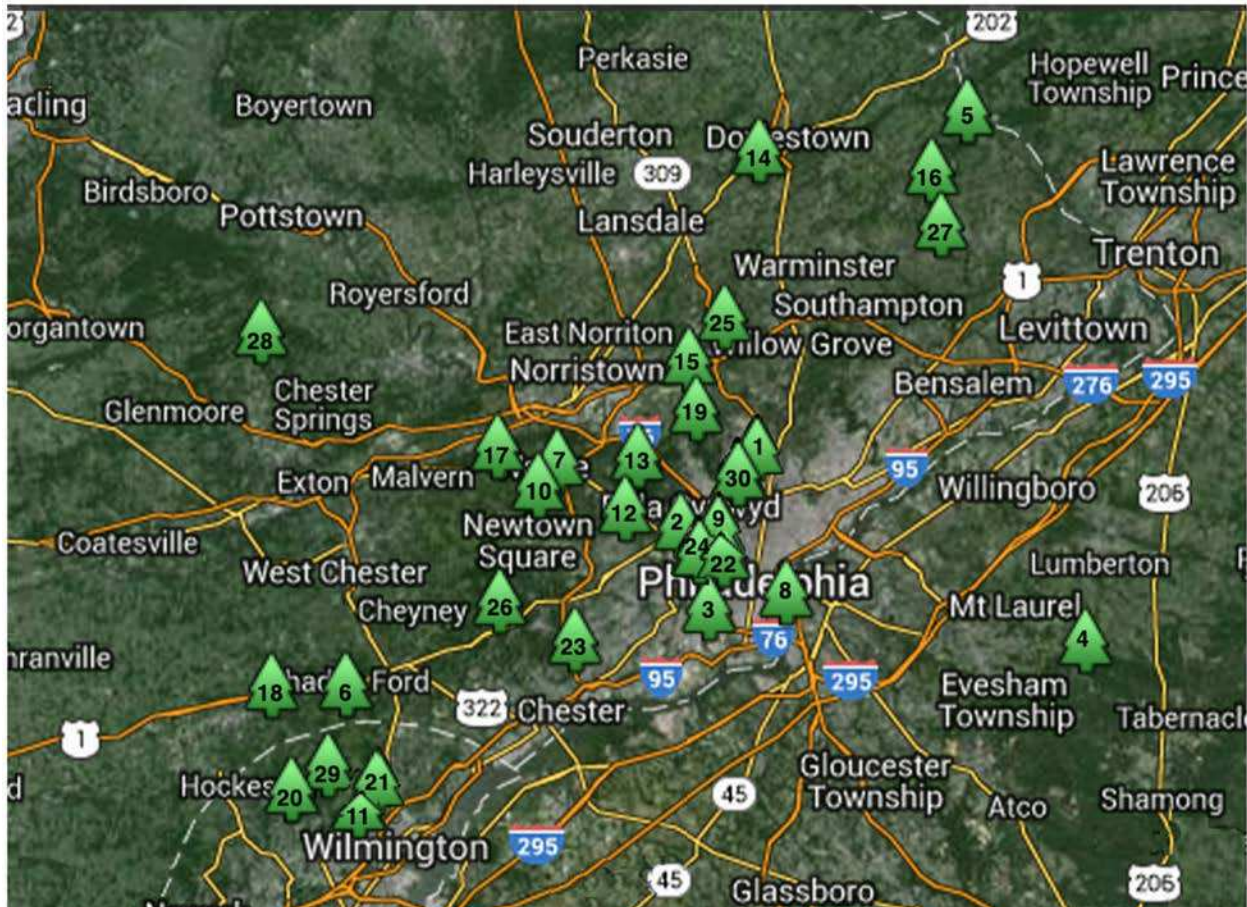
Bring a salad, vegetable, or dessert serving 4 – 6 and your own eating utensils and chairs. Meat and beverages will be provided. We encourage new members or members who have never attended before simply to join in the fun and bring along their families or gardening friends.

There will be a brief business meeting (election of officers) and time to tour the gardens.

**Directions: From Valley Forge:** From US 202, take N Valley Forge Rd. South 2.6 miles. Turn left onto Conestoga Rd. Go .9 miles to US 30. Turn left onto US 30 East. Go .4 miles to Conestoga Rd. Turn right onto Conestoga Rd. Go 1.3 miles to Church Rd. Turn right on Church Rd. Go .6 miles to Chanticleer.

**From I 476 (Blue Route):** Take exit 13 (US 30). Go West on US 30 .4 miles. Turn left on S Radnor Chester Rd. Go .6 miles to Conestoga Rd. Turn right on Conestoga Rd. Go 1.3 miles to Church Rd. Turn right on Church Rd. Go .6 miles to Chanticleer.

**Philadelphia: America's Garden City – 30 Gardens in 30 Miles**







1. [Awbury Arboretum](#)

A 55-acre natural historic landscape in the historic Germantown section of Phila.



2. [Barnes Foundation](#)

A 12-acre arboretum with over 3,000 species of woody plants and trees in Merion, PA.



3. [Bartram's Garden](#)

The oldest botanic garden in America on the west bank of the Schuylkill, 46 acres. Phila.



4. [Barton Arboretum](#)

Over 200 acres near Medford, NJ, including a nature preserve and gardens.



5. [Bowman's Hill](#)

A 134-acre wildflower preserve in Bucks County near New Hope, PA.



6. [Brandywine River Museum](#)

Brandywine Conservancy's Wildflower and Native Plant Gardens at Chadds Ford, PA.



7. [Cabrini College Campus](#)

A 112-acre estate in Radnor landscaped by Frederick Law Olmsted in the early 1900's.



8. [Camden Children's Garden](#)

A garden-based theme park adjacent to the Camden Aquarium near the RiverLink.



9. [Centennial Arboretum](#)

27 acres in Fairmont Park near the Horticultural Center with gardens and ponds, Phila.



10. [Chanticleer](#)

This former 47-acre estate in Wayne is now one of the premier gardens in the US.

### **du Pont gardens**

**Hagley** – E. I. du Pont,  
**Longwood** – Pierre S. du Pont,  
**Mt. Cuba** – Lamont du Pont Copeland,  
**Nemours** – Alfred I. du Pont,  
**Winterthur** – Henry Francis du Pont





11. [Hagley Museum Gardens](#)

Du Pont estate & Gardens on 235 acres near Wilmington along the Brandywine Creek



15. [Highlands Mansion/Garden](#)

44-acre country estate with a mansion and a 2-acre formal garden in Whitmarsh, PA.



18. [Longwood Gardens](#)

World famous du Pont 926-acre gardens and conservatory near Kennett Square, PA.



12. [Haverford Col. Arboretum](#)

216-acre English pastoral landscape created by William Carvill in 1833, Haverford, PA.



16. [Hortulus Farm Garden](#)

100-acre 18<sup>th</sup> century nursery and farmstead with 30 acres of gardens in Bucks County.



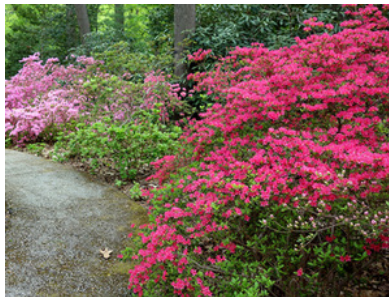
19. [Morris Arboretum](#)

University of Pennsylvania's 92-acre garden and arboretum in the Chestnut Hill section, Phila.



13. [Henry Botanic Garden](#)

50 acres devoted to botanical research in the steep hills of Gladwyne near the Schuylkill.



17. [Jenkins Arboretum](#)

46 acres of native trees in Devon, PA, featuring collections of rhododendrons and azaleas.



20. [Mt. Cuba Center](#)

500 acres devoted to native plants with 50 acres of display gardens near Wilmington, DE.



14. [Henry Schmierer Arboretum](#)

40-acre living collection on the campus of Delaware Valley College, Doylestown, PA.

Dating to 1690, **Wyck** is one of Philadelphia's oldest houses, although the original log structure is gone.

**Bartram's** garden is America's oldest botanical garden going back to 1730.





21. [Nemours Mansion/Gardens](#)

3,000-acre du Pont estate and formal gardens with fountains in Wilmington, DE.



25. [Temple University Ambler](#)

187-acre arboretum/campus of the former PA School of Horticulture for Women.



28. [Welkinweir](#)

A 197-acre of native plants featuring a 55-acre arboretum in Northern Chester County, PA.



22. [Philadelphia Zoo](#)

America's first zoo, a 42-acre Victorian garden, is home to more than 1300 animals.



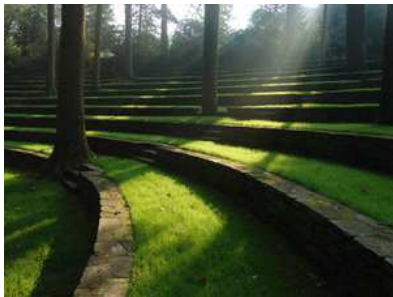
26. [Tyler Arboretum](#)

650 acres near Media, PA, with botanical collections created by Dr. Wister & many trails.



29. [Winterthur](#)

Near Wilmington, DE, its 60-acre naturalistic garden is among America's best.



23. [Scott Arboretum](#)

300 acres on the Swarthmore College Campus with 4,000 kinds of ornamental plants.



27. [Tyler Formal Gardens](#)

On an acre at the Bucks County Comm. College are 4-tier classical gardens.



30. [Wyck Rose Garden](#)

In Germantown, from the 1820's. It is the oldest original rose garden in America.



24. [Shofuso Japanese Garden](#)

In West Fairmont Park with a 1.2 acre traditional hill-and-pond garden and teahouse.

**Chanticleer and Longwood** are considered among America's best public botanical gardens.

## Jim Gears – Pennsbury Gardens Open House: *May 8-9*

Valley Forge member Jim Gears is holding his spring open houses on May 8-9 this year. The hours will be 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM each day. He carries a number of wonderful wildflowers including many Trillium species, Bird's Foot Violets, ferns, native azalea species and hybrids, rhododendrons, evergreen azaleas and other treasures. He is

only open twice a year but you can also call to make an appointment to visit at other times. He is located near Longwood Gardens.

**Jim Gears, Pennsbury Gardens, LLC**  
**2065 Parkersville Rd,**  
**West Chester, PA 19382**  
**610-793-2313**  
**[jdgears@verizon.net](mailto:jdgears@verizon.net)**

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### Lancaster County Nursery Trek

The Potomac Valley Chapter plans a trip each year to Pennsylvania to visit nurseries. The nurseries are in Lancaster County. There are many other nurseries in the area that many of us know about and like. Since they go up individually, there is no set schedule or fixed date. Here are the nurseries:

#### Groff's Plant Farm

6128 Street Rd.,  
Kirkwood, PA 17536  
717-529-3001

This nursery has a wide selection of annuals, perennials, wildflowers, hostas, and shrubs. They arrange plants by sun or shade requirements. Please note that they do not take credit cards so you must pay by check or cash. <http://groffsplantfarm.com>

**[Lunch in East Earl, PA ]**

### Conestoga Nursery

310 Reading Road,  
East Earl, PA 17519  
717-445-4076

This nursery seems to specialize on trees and shrubs. They have had a good selection of conifers in the past as well as perennials at inexpensive prices including tree peonies! They also carried some of the Itoh hybrid peonies like the magnificent yellow 'Bartzella'. Note that this nursery is closed on Tuesdays and Sundays.

### Black Creek Greenhouses

211 E. Black Creek Road,  
East Earl, PA 17519  
717-445-5046

This nursery has a huge selection of bedding plants, house plants, vegetable starts, and various other flowers and perennials. Sizes range from market packs to gallon size and prices are excellent.



*Where every purchase benefits the  
American Rhododendron Society*



## Coming ARS National Meetings

**2015 ARS Annual Convention,**  
70th Anniversary, May 6 -10, 2015  
Sidney, BC Canada  
Website: <http://www.2015rhodo.ca/>

**2015 Fall Regional Conference**  
New York Chapter  
Long Island, NY

**2016 ARS/ASA Annual Convention,**  
April 20-24, 2016  
Williamsburg, VA  
Website: <http://arsasaconvention2016.org/>

Note the 2015 Fall Regional Conference and 2016 ARS Convention are an easy drive away. Sneak a peak at what is being planned for 2016 at <http://arsasaconvention2016.org/>. With Don Hyatt involved we know it will be great. Be sure to calendar it now.

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### News from ARSStore.org

#### *Special Book Offer for ARS*

The newest addition to ARSStore.org is the all-new edition of the book, *Compendium of Rhododendron and Azalea Diseases and Pests* published by the **American Phytopathological Society (APS)**.

ARSStore.org negotiated a \$20 discount on sales from ARSStore.org and also a donation to the ARS of 5 percent of the proceeds from sales made using this special ARS promotion. This is a special offer for ARS members on this much-improved second edition of the classic reference. A book review appeared in the Fall 2014 Journal of the ARS.

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#### **In 2015, the Valley Forge Chapter of the ARS Supports the following:**

- **ARS Endowment Fund**
- **ARS Research Fund**
- **Jenkins Arboretum**
- **Rhododendron Species Foundation**
- **Southern Appalachian Highlands Cons.**
- **Tyler Arboretum.**

## From A Guide for the Hungry Gardener:

### Fail Proof Quiche

10-inch piecrust  
4 to 6 slices bacon, cooked crisp & crumbled  
½ lb. grated Swiss cheese  
¾ Cup grated Parmesan or Romano cheese  
1 Tablespoon chives, chopped  
1/8+ teaspoon nutmeg  
¼ teaspoon salt  
4 eggs, lightly beaten  
1 ¾ Cup evaporated milk

Bake crust 10 minutes at 350°.  
Sprinkle crumbled bacon into shell.  
Spread Swiss cheese over the bacon.  
Mix remaining ingredients and pour over bacon and cheese.  
Bake 350° for 40 to 60 minutes or until set.  
Serves 6 to 8.

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### Resources on our website:

<http://ValleyForgeARS.org>

The main sections of our website are:

- **Join Us:** Membership Application
- **Links:** Information, Gardens & Sources
- **Events:** Our Events Calendar
- **News:** Flower Show Results & Newsletters
- **Contact Us:** Our Mailing Address
- **Members Area:** Chapter History Pages
- **Gallery:** Photo Gallery for Members

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### ARS Student Membership

Student membership in the ARS is available to young people under 18 and those over 18 with student ID. The ARS would like to encourage young people to join our Society by making it affordable. With their membership, they will receive an electronic version of the Journal but not a paper copy.

**American Rhododendron Society  
Valley Forge Chapter  
P.O. Box 715  
Southeastern, PA 19399-0715**

**FIRST-CLASS MAIL**



***NEWSLETTER***  
***March/April 2015***



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Philadelphia: America's Garden City	Secretary: Joan Warren (610) 913-0005
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Special Book Offer for ARS Members	Steve Henning ('13-'16) (610) 987-6184
VF ARS Supported Charities	Darlene Henning ('13-'16) (610) 987-6184
Guide for the Hungry Gardener	Alice Horton ('14-'17) (610) 430-0196
Resources on the VF ARS Website	John Ryan ('14-'17) (610) 971-2368
ARS Student Membership	Membership: Darlene Henning (610) 987-6184
<b>ARS website: <a href="http://rhododendron.org">rhododendron.org</a></b>	Newsletter Editor: Steve Henning (610) 987-6184
	Plant Sale: Chris Smetana (610) 688-5249
	Plants-for-Members: Jim Willhite (484) 887-0232
	Programs: Alice Horton (610) 430-0196
	Truss Show (V.F.): Debby Schmidt (610) 388-8573
	Webmaster: Jim Willhite (484) 887-0232
	<b>VF Chapter's web site: <a href="http://ValleyForgeARS.org">ValleyForgeARS.org</a></b>

Please contact us with email changes or if you receive this **newsletter** by letter carrier rather than email, even though you have e-mail. Please inform Steve Henning of any changes ([rhodyman@earthlink.net](mailto:rhodyman@earthlink.net)).