

The Rootball e-News

Heads Up!

In 2012, we will be celebrating our chapter's 50th anniversary. John Golab is serving as Program Chairperson and he'll shortly present various options to the board of ways we might celebrate this occasion. Several months ago, a questionnaire was sent to our members and their responses will play a large roll in our plans. We'll continue to keep the membership appraised as plans are finalized.



Big Deal

In Case You Missed It

One of our chapter members, Betty Ann Addison from Minneapolis, MN, recently had an article, 'Growing Rhododendrons for Cold Climates from Seed', published in *The ARS Journal* (Summer edition, Vol 65, page 143). The article explains in detail Betty Ann's method of propagating seeds in a quest to develop new hardy lepidote rhododendrons. Betty Ann promised to provide us with additional information of her hybridizing efforts which we will publish in a future issue of *The Rootball e-News*.

a message from the president . . .



Making Progress

Your Chapter Officers and representatives met on August 2 at the home of Tony and Barbara Greco in Indian Head Park, IL to continue our planning activities for the Chapter. Susan Garland has done a tremendous job of contacting all the members from our 2010 and 2011 lists. She is now in the process of reviewing our 2008 and 2009 membership lists in an effort to reconnect with past members to encourage them to renew. Once completed, Tony Greco will send the final list to all of you. Sensitive contact information will not be included in the distribution.

We established a mentoring program for attracting and supporting new members. We believe that if new members get off to a good start and know that they have the support of the members of the Chapter, they will be more likely to succeed and continue their membership. Since this is a new venture for all of us, Chapter officers agreed to serve as mentors initially as we feel our way and establish a more formal program that we can roll out on a broader scale. Should you have questions about the program or have ideas that we could incorporate, please give me a call (630-215-5022) or send me an email at <t.nyquist@sbcglobal.net>.

Dave Hinde, our Treasurer, reported that our current bank balance is \$7238.01 with all bills having been paid and no debt. We are better off than the U.S. Treasury Department! We should have an AAA credit rating.

John Golab is completing the information in our updated and new recruiting brochure. Tony Greco has been seeking art and print quotes. We should have an excellent piece of literature for our new brochure very soon.

As part of our effort to communicate more effectively and frequently with our members, Jack Strom, our webmaster, is establishing a "blog" site for our chapter. Details will be forthcoming. When implemented, this should be a welcome addition to our program.

In another part of our recruiting efforts, John Golab and Jack Strom are preparing a PowerPoint presentation which may be utilized by our members to give talks at garden clubs and botanical gardens with the purpose of educating the public about our favorite plants. Our anticipation is that we

continued on next page

Making Progress

continued from previous page

may attract new members from our efforts. We will let you know when this presentation is completed.

May of 2012 is going to be a busy month for our chapter. The American Rhododendron Society is having their annual meeting in Ashville, North Carolina together with the Azalea Society (ASA) on May 4-7. Our annual plant sale will take place over the Mother's Day weekend, May 12 and 13 and The Lake Michigan Chapter of The ASA has invited The Midwest Chapter to attend a get-together on May 18, 19 and 20 in the Saugatuck/Holland Michigan area. The Tri-state Chapter (ASA), The Great Rivers Chapter Holly Society and The Ann Arbor, Great Lakes and Ozark Chapters of District 11 have also been invited. See the accompanying article for additional information. and please put these dates on your 2012 calendars.

Last but not least, we are scheduling an event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our Midwest Chapter in 2012. We are anticipating this will be held in September of next year. A meeting place and final arrangements are being developed and we will notify you when arrangements are finalized.

Warmest Regards,

Ted Nyquist



Mandarin Lights

Editor/Design
A. P. Greco

2012 Garden Tour

Members of The Lake Michigan Chapter of The Azalea Society (ASA) will be hosting a spring get-together in the Saugatuck/Holland, Michigan area for members of The Tri-state Chapter (ASA), Great Rivers Chapter Holly Society, and the Ann Arbor, Great Lakes, Midwest and Ozark Chapters of The ARS (District 11).



Plans are being formulated at this time and below is a preliminary itinerary for the weekend. In addition to some great garden tours that will be included, there will be a small plant sale with hard to find rhododendrons and azaleas in liner and 1 gallon sizes.

Friday May 18, 2012

Check into hotel, registration, short introduction of activities, speaker

Saturday, May 19, 2012

Garden Tours, evening banquet at hotel, meeting and speaker

Sunday, May 20, 2012

Optional garden tours, return home

Additional information will be provided as plans are finalized.

Midwest Chapter Officers

Ted Nyquist, President
t.nyquist@sbcglobal.net

David Hinde, Treasurer
dwh123@charter.net

Susan Garland, Membership
s-boatman@sbcglobal.net

Anthony P. Greco, Secretary/Communications
apgreco@sbcglobal.net



In Memoriam

After battling a lengthy illness, Linda Horner passed away quietly on August 12 with her family and pastor at her side. We'll remember

Linda for her warmth and kindness, and along with Tom, a gracious host at many of our Chapter events at their home. Our deepest sympathies go out to Tom and his family.

*If you care to contact Tom Horner-
25706 Malchine Road
Waterford WI 53185
262-895-6168
psalmxl@aol.com*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Chapter Plant Sale/ Truss Show

Dates: May 12, 13, 2012

Place: Chicago Botanic Garden

Michigan Spring Garden Visits

Dates: May 18, 19 and 20, 2012

Place: Saugatuck/Holland, Michigan



Peter Tigerstadt
R. Dunlap



The Midwest Chapter ARS

www.midwestars.org