

MID-ATLANTIC RHODODENDRON NEWS AND NOTES

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING MAC MEETINGS

Apr. 30–May 2, 2004

Holiday Inn Express, Kilmarnock, VA

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FALL MEETING 2003 IN BRISTOL, VA

by Jeanne Hammer

Forty-seven M.A.C. members, including our newest, John Marshall, gathered on October 17 - 19 at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center, just north of Bristol, VA for our fall meeting. Although past the peak for fall color in the mountains, the weather on Saturday was perfect for hiking and enjoying the scenic views at and along the way to Grayson Highlands State Park.

On Friday evening, Jim Brant described and answered questions about a M.A.C.-sponsored project to document the diversity of the native azaleas of Gregory Bald. His remarks were illustrated by slides of Gregory Bald and the deciduous azaleas growing on the bald. Parker Little gave a slide talk about the unusual forms of the native azaleas he studied on White Rock Mountain. To get well-lit close-ups of the unusual flower forms, Parker used an interesting and effective technique of placing the flowers on a gravel road, away from the more shaded spots where they were growing. Parker also provided copies of his Piping Tree Gardens & Nursery catalog, which eagerly were snatched up after his talk.

Our Saturday banquet speaker was George McLellan, who gave a slide-talk "Mountain Flora, West & East". George's slides once again displayed his talent for photography, as we gazed at stunningly beautiful vistas at Glacier National Park and in the mountains of North Carolina and lovely close-ups of closely related wild flowers of both areas.

The big surprise of the meeting was the lone entry in the foliage show by Paul James of a cutting from the elepidote 'Cavalier'. This handsome specimen captured the "Best in Show"

trophy and ribbon. Tongue in cheek, Paul said that the secret to his success is, "First, eliminate all competition."

HURRICANE ISABEL WHACKS MAC!

by Sandra McDonald

Hurricane Isabel has been a hot topic for conversation at all the recent plant meetings I have attended. This storm story is included in our newsletter since Isabel impacted so many of our MAC members and their gardens. Out in the Atlantic it was a category five storm with winds of 160 mph for a while and was a category four storm for a good while. The strength of this storm had me more frightened than any previous hurricane, and the hurricane forecasters predicted it would track very near us. Isabel came through the southeast Virginia area on Thursday, September 18th, 2003, after having made landfall over the Outer Banks of North Carolina as a category two storm during the morning with wind speeds of 105 mph and a storm surge of 11 feet. The weather forecasters were right in their predictions about its path. Isabel quickly downgraded to category one shortly after making landfall, and then quickly dropped to tropical storm strength.

The storm track was somewhat inland of Hampton Roads, then over Richmond and on over Charlottesville. We have many members in these areas.

The right side or northwest quadrant of a hurricane is the most dangerous and that is the part that hit the southeastern Virginia area. We only had about 2 ½ inches of rain in Hampton, not even enough to wash the salt spray off the plants. Further inland they did have more rain, from 4 to 7 inches in some places during a 14 hour period.

When Isabel was battering the Hampton Roads area, the winds had dropped to just above hurricane force (74 mph) with gusts up to over 90mph. Power went out so much went unrecorded. Our power went out, about two minutes before noon on Thursday. Winds kept blowing strongly for hours forcing the storm surge of about 9 feet on us. High tide was about 3 p.m., not far from the time the center moved past to our west, and the water could not go back out to sea because the winds kept forcing it in. There was also a high out in the North Atlantic that did not help the situation. The water rose up in the rivers and creeks and flooded many houses in low areas. It could not retreat

as property on or near the water. Many homes were crushed when trees fell on them even inland.

Ninety-five percent of the people in the southeast Virginia area were without power, some for only a few days and others up to nearly two weeks. At the peak of power outage, there were 1.8 million people without power.

After the storm FEMA had over 82,000 calls for assistance with the two leading communities being Hampton and Newport News, each with over 7,500 calls. Poquoson and York County had nearly 3,000 each.

We had a wet summer this year with lots of lush growth on our trees after suffering three years



Debby Sauer by heavy equipment required for cleaning up their garden. Photo by David Sauer.

against the high water and wind.

Isabel caused huge amounts of damage as I'm sure you have read in your newspapers. The storm was particularly hard on trees and gardens, as well

drought previously. The ground was fairly wet so trees were uprooted more easily by the strong winds than if it had not been such a wet season. Thousands of sturdy, but top heavy, oak trees came down as well as large numbers of pecan trees, pines, and other trees. The southern

magnolias, *Magnolia grandiflora*, fared quite well. They must have very strong branches and a huge root system because I only saw one of them with a rotten branch that had blown off. I am sure there must have been other magnolias hurt, but locally they stood up extremely well to the storm.

Below is a summary of the damage that I know about for our MAC members and friends. If others have damage I did not know about, let me know and I can include an addendum in the next

We were without power until Thursday afternoon (9/25) which was uncomfortable, but we survived. We have been trying to get the worst of the mess off of the azaleas in the beds at the far end of our woods (behind my Mom's house), and off of the fence (several spots) so we can get an estimate for insurance purposes. Anybody need azalea cuttings? — We have quite a few that are four or five feet long! As we've gotten some plants uncovered, the losses don't seem to be as bad as we had originally feared. Many bushes were bent over but not broken, so I'm sure they will be fine. Even those



Heavy equipment and four trailer loads of logs waiting to be hauled away at Sauer's garden. Photo by David Sauer.

newsletter.

Barbara and Al Hall in Gloucester had many big old trees down in their garden, especially the parts of the garden nearer the woods. Three big trees, tulip poplar and pines, fell over and left big holes. The neighbor's tree damaged their fence. Barbara wrote:

"I'm very thankful that nothing fell on the house and the oldest parts of the garden were virtually untouched, but we have MANY large trees down in various areas.

with quite a bit of damage will probably recover and may even thrive! However, I believe that those that took a direct slam from huge tree trunks are now residing in Japan! As David (Sauer) observed, perhaps the surviving plants will actually do better now that they have quite a bit more sunshine! I'm trying to be optimistic since there's nothing I can do to reverse the situation anyway!"

George McLellan in the Ware Neck area of Gloucester right on the Ware River had a lot of damage. Many of pear trees lining both sides of

his long driveway and other trees in his garden were blown over or had broken limbs. He plans to replace the pears with something else, possibly crape myrtles. He said he had 85 trees down including the ones in his woods. He had one to four feet of salt water flooding in his garden except on the top of some of the berms. The little bridge in his garden floated away, but he did recover it. The house did not flood. George had evacuated to Leesburg before the storm and afterwards he stayed at Jim Brant's house for 5 days while his power was out. George also described some of the tree damage as either from downbursts or possibly a tornado since there was twisting of some tree

should be fine. *Acuba japonica* came through okay.

Jim and Pam Brant in Gloucester had at least a half dozen trees down in the woods and garden. Their house is okay. They were without power for a while, but had a generator to use until their power came back on.

Alice and Ray Doggett in Gloucester Point on the York River had no flooding in their house. They did have four trees down and saltwater spray damage to the garden. They took their family treasures and stayed with one of their children in Nelson County out of harm's way during the storm. Ray, being the diligent



Tree being lifted by heavy equipment in the Sauer's garden. Note the house at left edge of photo. Photo by David Sauer.

trunks. His holly ferns took the salt water well, but all his other ferns appear dead at this time. His cyclamen, including very large old ones appear dead. The *Helleborus* species looked a bit ragged after the storm, but are sending out new leaves and

volunteer that he is, delivered meals for the Red Cross until they discontinued cooking the meals. He delivered meals to the people in the Guinea area of Gloucester that is so low-lying and prone to flooding. He said flooding along the York River was bad. Ray reported that 175 homes in

Gloucester County were destroyed and 326 homes were damaged by Isabel.

Peggy and Charles McComb in the Bena area of Gloucester County and also on the water stayed with one of their children. They had their air conditioner blow out of a window then rain and seawater came in and flooded the living room and hallway. Some branches and debris were down in their garden as well as neighboring trees down on them. They had salt water in the garden and under house which ruined the heating system. New duct work needs to be installed. They are hopeful that they will have heat again in early December. The busy contractors had promised it by early November, but the overwhelming amount of work pushed it into December. They do have a small wood stove and space heaters, but the house is getting quite chilly these days. They acquired a

Sybil and Walter Przypek in Yorktown had many trees down in the woods and a couple in the yard. Leaners near the house need to be taken down. Limbs and debris needs cleaning up. Walter sent the following information:

“Having been through several major hurricanes in my lifetime, I wasn't too concerned with the storm that was approaching the U.S. this mid September. After all, many hurricanes approach, and then veer away from the U.S. coast at the last moment. So, Sybil and I left for our planned trip to a class reunion in Massachusetts. I was eager to attend.

But, Isabel did not veer away. It came in almost straight as an arrow, to a point in NC, predicted very early in the storm's life. A highly unusual occurrence with early hurricane predictions, because they tend to meander endlessly while at sea. For us, this storm came ashore at the worst place. Hurricanes that make landfall south of us, in the upper half of NC, usually produce the



McDonald's demolished seawall, brick wall, fence, and vegetation in Hampton. Photo by Ken McDonald.

large tank and debris on their property which the surge brought in.

Alice Doggett said that Harry and Esther Jordan's house in Gloucester Point looked okay, but she hadn't spoken to Harry yet.

worst storm conditions here in the Hampton Roads area.

Although the sustained winds were in the 60 to 80 mph range, they appeared to have done very little general area damage. Most roofs and trees between damaged areas, appeared to be intact after the storm. However, from the damage that I observed near our

house, it appears that there were many downbursts, of air and possibly, some tornadic winds that did the most damage. This is apparent to me, by the small areas of destruction that are mixed in with totally intact areas throughout Hampton Roads. Similar damage occurred in other parts of Virginia, and southern Maryland.

One can also see the effects of the wind tunneling, and compressing between structures, with an increase in its velocity and damage. However, this damage seemed less pronounced than in other damaged areas that had no such features.

Here, in York County, Virginia, that same pattern of damage can also be observed. On Dare Road, where I live, there are areas of no damage whatsoever with small scattered pockets of extensive damage to homes, trees, and utility lines and poles.

Our yard, on Dare Road, also appears to have been exposed to a high powered blast of air, but only to the right, northeastern side of the house. There are over a dozen large trees down on that side, and only smaller branches down in the other direction. Fortunately, our home was spared, tree and wind damage, but our electrical power was out for five days, and the food in two freezers was spoiled. On our trip back from the reunion, we attempted to buy a generator. We could not find any emergency generators from Massachusetts to Virginia.

It appears that most of my plants escaped major damage. But, there is some damage/destruction to some plants in the back yard area, to the left. It's difficult to assess how much at this time, until several large trees are removed.

Many homes along the water in York County, including those of several friends, were totally destroyed, apparently by the tidal surge. Many others, that were inland, were also flooded. Thankfully, we are above the road and the adjacent land, by a little over 10 ft and had no water problems. However, some homes, and grounds, in the Brandywine area across and down the road several hundred yards from us, flooded.

From my personal observations of U.S. Weather Service data, this storm was a category one storm, as it moved ashore in North Carolina. However, it was a category four, earlier in its life cycle. During that time, its diameter increased to large proportions, and it did not shrink as its winds decreased. I can't recall ever seeing this much damage from a storm of such relatively low rain fall, (3 inch average here in York County) and wind velocity. Perhaps, its extremely large mass produced the unexpectedly destructive results."

Steve and Ray Hinderliter in Poquoson had 47 trees down. Their garden is a mess. Saltwater flooded their garage and the garden, but not the

house. A new tractor and Steve's truck were ruined by the saltwater. Their house is okay.

Evelyn Parker in Poquoson was very fortunate. Apparently the only damage was to her fence when the neighbor's tree fell on it.

Gretchen and Bob Johnson in Midlothian, Virginia, near Richmond had one tree down in their garden.

David and Debby Sauer in Chester, Virginia, south of Richmond had 75 to 100 fallen trees that devastated the garden. The trees were so intertwined and mangled up they could not even count them. Many azalea plants were broken. They could only get out one door after the storm because the other doors were blocked by fallen trees. A couple of the trees did some damage to the edges of the roof. David and Debby were recently able to get many of the trees removed by a forester. (See photos.) Some azalea plants sprang back up, but others are badly broken and Debby is doing some work on them. Some parts of the garden which were not hurt too badly by the falling trees were damaged by the construction equipment trying to remove them, even though they tried to be as careful as possible.

Bill Bedwell in Dinwiddie didn't lose any big trees since the bad ones had already fallen. He got dirt into his well pumping system for the house and had a power outage.

Joanne Ortiz wrote the following about her and Bill Saunders' garden:

"We were lucky, although I have counted over 40 trees down, mostly oak, and the air filled with that peculiar oak smell as they are being cut up. I have a feeling that Bill will be neglecting the garden for a while as he will be occupied with these trees. Half a dozen were across our 1/4 mile driveway/lane. We did plan fairly well for this one, however, and Bill's new tractor arrived the day before the storm. He was well equipped with new blades for the chain saw, also. We, like so many in rural areas, sorely miss running water when the power is out. We were fortunate to have family close enough by to clean up regularly, plus the shelter was located in the school on the corner.

I have talked to so many of my patients and everyone has such a different perspective. People range from being angry over no power to crying over the loss of their favorite plants. It is amazing that no more people were injured. My sister's husband is a lineman for Dominion Virginia Power. One of his buddies is in the burn unit in MCV, one lineman from Florida was killed."

Jane and Wally McKay in Palmyra near Charlottesville had much tree damage with debris, limbs and trees down. They have not been able to have their big tree down in the garden removed yet.

Jeanne Hammer in Charlottesville had trees down in the woods and garden. They need electricity to have water, so were without power and water for a time. Jeanne said it was quite an experience to shower at the firehouse!

David and Mary Lay in Kilmarnock had three trees down, but none hit the house. Their deer fence survived intact..

Ken and Sandra McDonald live in Hampton on the water of Hampton Roads Harbor across from the Norfolk Naval Air Station and had the following damage:

We had our bulkhead/seawall destroyed as did many of our neighbors. After cleaning up the garden mess we are trying to find a contractor to build a new one, a very expensive proposition, not covered by insurance. Five to ten feet of soil washed away from the yard behind the bulkhead. Our lacebark elm blew down and many plants near the water washed away or tipped over and were stripped of leaves. Many are dead, a few are alive. Saltwater was up to 20 feet into the backyard for 4 to 6 hours from the storm surge. About 3/4 of the vegetation in back yard is brown from seawater. We were able to use jacks and pulleys to hoist the elm tree back upright after Ken cut off two of the four trunks with a chain saw. The tree still had green leaves and put out new growth after that. Ken kept it well-watered. The reason we put so much effort into this tree is because it had special meaning to me since it was given to me by the U.S. National Arboretum. We hope many of the plants will put out new growth in spring. Some plants have already put out new growth, but I am afraid that others are goners. The daylilies are real trouper. In spite of having their leaves striped to nothing but short brown strings, they put out an inch of new growth in the first week and continue to make good growth. We are going to have more daylilies near the water when this mess is cleaned up. They are tough plants.

After picking up huge amounts of debris and tidal leavings, and shoveling the sand back into holes by the water, I put down a lot of gypsum as a remedy for the salting the soil received. Then I planted grass seed where the soil was scrubbed bare. It is up and looking very promising now.

The waterside ends were broken off our brick walls on both sides of the yard and thrown down by the beach. The chainlink fence that was across the back is gone.

Our power was out from noon on Thursday, September 18 until 1:45 p.m. on Sunday, September 28,

over 10 full days. Hydro Quebec was the power company that got our neighborhood power back on. Ken took refreshments out to them and they only spoke French. Later the supervisor came by and he did speak some English. We thanked him heartily for getting our power back on. On Tuesday, September 30, 13% of the people of the Hampton Roads area still didn't have power including two of our children in the Hilton Village area of Newport News. They got power on day 13.

Don Hyatt in McLean, Virginia, near Washington, D. C. was without power and water for eight days. He lives in a suburban neighborhood with lots of trees.

Mike Andruczyk at his home in Chesapeake had two large pecan trees down and some branches. At the Norfolk Botanical Garden where Mike is curator, there were 450 trees that had blown down. A request for volunteers to help clean up the Norfolk Botanical Garden went out in a radio broadcast. Much has been cleaned up now, and the Gardens will be able to hire some help for the remaining work. There are still 75 trees to be removed. The main species blown down were red oak, white oak, and loblolly pine. The annual Christmas light display in the gardens had to be cancelled this year because of the damage to the garden. Many plants were damaged by the falling trees, but the extent of that damage is not available yet.

The 550-acre park at the Mariner's Museum in Newport News had more than 2,000 trees blown down by Isabel. Damage at the park is estimated to be \$1 million according to the *Daily Press*. In a normal year park maintenance costs \$180,000.

The *Mid-Atlantic Grower* reported that more than 10,000 trees went down in the Richmond metropolitan area. I have not seen totals for Hampton or Newport News.

Other gardens many of you may know about in southeast Virginia:

Pamela Harper, author and nationally known garden writer in Seaford, Virginia, had a lot of damage with many trees down in her garden. Salt water flooded her garden and part of the house and her car was flooded.

Bill and Linda Pinkham, two locally well-known horticulturists in Suffolk, Virginia, suffered tremendous damage in their garden with much soil washing away on the sides of their

garden which is on a peninsula. They are on saltwater.

I'm sure we are all looking forward to having all this destruction and work behind us. Gardeners are optimists. We must be to keep pressing forward. I hope you will keep me posted on your progress.

BY-LAWS AMENDMENT PASSED

At a meeting of the general membership on Friday evening, October 17th, 2003, the following change to the MAC By-Laws was approved:

Article XIII - District Director Support

The Middle Atlantic Chapter will support the District 9 Director by providing funds from the Chapter's General Fund to be used by the District Director to defray expenses related to the American Rhododendron Society. The amount provided will be at the discretion of the Middle Atlantic Chapter Board of Directors.

REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Notes from Hyannis—Don Voss, District 9 Director

On Friday, 31 October, the ARS Board of Directors fall meeting was held at Hyannis, MA. Several of the issues that occupied the attention of the Board for nearly seven hours may be of interest to chapter members. A suggestion was made that chapter newsletters from time to time include comments provided by District Directors—please feel free to excerpt from these notes.

The most important (in my view) matter considered relates to the use of Endowment Fund income. In response to a resolution of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter addressed to ARS President Mike Stewart, extensive research was conducted by Mike and Executive Director Dee Daneri. The Society's accountant provided information based on established accounting standards, and legal opinions were secured. The Endowment Fund Committee, chaired by Bill Mangels, provided a thoughtful report with recommendations that, I believe, address the essence of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter concerns. The recommended restructuring of the Endowment Fund was adopted by the Board.

Contributions to the Endowment Fund made during the period when ARS leaders and statements in the Journal emphasized support of educational publications are to be segregated in a Donor Restricted Endowment Fund (Publication). Donations made with no restriction on use will be designated Donor Restricted Endowment Fund (General). The Unrestricted Board-Designated Endowment Fund will include amounts, such as the Swisher bequest, placed

in the Endowment Fund by action of the Board of Directors. Income from the Donor Restricted Endowment Fund (Publication) will be available only for ARS publication projects, including the Journal. The remainder of the Endowment Fund income may be used for grants to support the purposes of the Society; this could include publication grants.

An essential point that all donors must understand is that, as the recipient of tax-deductible donations, the Society must ensure that Endowment Fund income is applied so as to implement objectives appropriate for a not-for-profit organization. These uses must contribute to the public interest as well as provide incidental benefit to the membership. Use of such income in a manner that confers benefit on individual members is prohibited.

Turning to other matters, it was noted that some chapters experience better attendance when meetings are held on Sunday afternoons (rather than evenings). Many older members do not like to drive at night.

As an addition to the District 9 report, I quoted excerpts from Sandra McDonald's e-mail report on Isabel damage in the MAC area. President Mike Stewart expressed the sense of those present in feeling deeply for the losses experienced by many of our members. The District 12 Director later reported that vegetation in Halifax, NS, had been devastated by Isabel.

The continuing loss of membership and the difficulty of attracting new members were discussed at some length. Chapter officers are requested to follow up on renewals! Dee Daneri will be happy to supply as many membership leaflets as you can place at nurseries, flower shows, etc. And once a new member is hooked, you need to reel him/her in! And keep him/her from escaping! One technique used by some chapters is to have a chapter member maintain contact to encourage attendance at meeting, provide information on rhodie culture, etc. Chapters need to seek media exposure and to keep OARS informed of news media in your areas. Bob Weissman is developing a means for downloading attractive membership cards for each chapter.

A number of motions recommended by the Bylaws & Policies Committee were passed:

a. If neither the director or alternate director from a district is able to attend a Board meeting, the chapter presidents in the district may select by majority vote an alternate to attend that meeting. Procedures were included in the motion. (POB 5.1.1)

b. Electronic (Internet) voting is now an option in the conduct of elections for officers and directors of the Society. (POB 7.3.1, 7.3.2, 7.4.1.4)

c. To accommodate the number of worthy candidates for the Silver Medal, the maximum number permitted in any calendar year is increased from two to three. (POB 9.5.6)

d. A Digital Publications Committee was created to allow development in this evolving area of technology. The initial task will be to oversee digitization of previous ARS Bulletins and Journals. (POB 9.31)

e. The Startup Fund may provide loans to chapters hosting meetings that include regularly scheduled meetings of the ARS Board of Directors. Details relating to applications, the approval process, and contract language are included. (POB 14.0)

f. A Digital Archives Committee, chaired by Jack Root, has been created.

FROM THE MIDDLE OF MAC by Jane McKay

Since Sandra is writing about Isabel I will concentrate on the garden. We have had some things to enjoy this fall. It was exceptionally mild up until a hard frost the second week in November. Our fall blooming hardy camellias ‘Winter Star’ and ‘Snow Flurry’ were gorgeous and are still showing some bloom now late in November. How nice it would be to have camellias on the table for Thanksgiving. The fall color was unusual this year; the big trees showed very little (I’m guessing the storm blew the life out of the leaves), but the understory trees and plants looked great. The dogwoods, both the native *Cornus florida* and *C. kousa* were beautiful as were the Japanese maples. The native azalea foliage as well as the evergreen azalea foliage was lovely as usual. Two plants that we grow just for the fall color are the native viburnum *V. acerfolium* and *Fothergilla gardenii*. On the down side over the last year we have lost some large rhododendrons. These plants were between 10 and 20 years old and located in different areas of the garden and not in wet areas. Paul James mentioned that he had similar losses. Could it be that they became so used to being dry that when they finally had sufficient rain they couldn’t handle it. We are also disappointed in the bud set on the rhododendrons, it is almost nonexistent. I guess we had too many dark and gloomy days this summer. Well at least we won’t have to dead head next summer. Happy Holidays.

MAC AT MAYMONT by Jeanne Hammer

As I reported to you in the September newsletter, MAC will participate in the 15th annual

Maymont Flower & Garden Show on February 19 - 22, 2004 in Richmond, VA. On November 12th, I attended an orientation meeting at Maymont, along with other exhibitors. It was an eye-opener. Although my telephone conversations with the Maymont show director led me to believe we could mount an educational exhibit using backdrops of enlarged photos of rhododendrons, handouts, and a laptop of continual selections of pictures of rhododendrons and past meetings, the orientation meeting made it clear that we are expected to design and install a garden landscape.

Fortunately, our garden landscape is a modest 10’ x 10’ in size, and Maymont can provide some donated materials and services to help. For example, Maymont provides the plastic to lay under the display and a volunteer to set up the color-correct, white theatrical lighting. Two local businesses provide free-of-charge mulch and boulders to use in creating the garden landscape. Also, plants used in the garden design can be sold at the end of the show to cover our costs.

After the meeting ended, two members of the Bonsai Society, with experience setting up garden displays at past Maymont shows, kindly gave me some helpful hints how to layout a simple garden setting that would include seating for the MAC member “manning” the display and a place to set our educational handouts and membership forms.

This year the Maymont show will include an educational series entitled “Answer Alley,” which offers seven half-hour time slots for horticultural groups that Maymont feels will be well received by their audience. MAC is scheduled for 4:00pm on Saturday, February 21st, and we are planning a simple demonstration on how to root azalea cuttings and answer general questions about rhododendron culture.

The Maymont show draws large crowds of “plant people” and has grown larger each year. In 2003, it moved to the Greater Richmond Convention Center at the corner of 5th and Marshall Streets, where it will be held in 2004. For MAC, creating and “manning” a garden landscape exhibit and offering a demonstration/question-and-answer session is a wonderful opportunity to provide information to the public about successfully growing rhododendrons and to recruit new members.

Please be sure to mark the Maymont show dates on your calendar and let me know if you could help set up or “man” the display for a couple hours Thursday through Sunday. We want to put MAC’s best foot forward, and there’s no better way to demonstrate the benefits of MAC membership than through personal contact.

GARDENS OPEN TO NEW MEMBERS - New members are encouraged to visit members' gardens in their area. The officers and board members have agreed to show new members through their gardens if the member will call ahead and arrange a convenient time. Telephone numbers and towns are listed below

MIDDLE ATLANTIC CHAPTER OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Memberships and renewals should be sent to Jane McKay, Membership Chairman, 3 Cobb's Ct., Palmyra, VA 22963.

Annual membership dues are \$35 per year.

Miscellaneous inquiries may be sent to the editor (address below) for forwarding to proper individual.

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