

# Rhododendrons In The Wild West

2008 ARS Convention  
April 16-20, 2008  
Tulsa, Oklahoma



Heat Tolerant Rhododendron Plant Sale - Professional Entertainment Every Night - Gardens - Beautiful Convention Pin - Buffalo BBQ - Lively Speakers - "It'll Be A Hoot"

## Hotel Reservations:

### **DoubleTree Hotel Warren Place**

6110 South Yale Ave. Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136  
1-800-801-1317 - Doubletreehotelwarrenplace.com,  
use **ARS** for rate code.

Convention rate is \$96 when you **register with the American Rhododendron Society**. Call before **Tuesday, April 1, 2008** to receive this rate.

## Contacts:

### **Bruce and Marianne Feller, Registrars**

88 Old Field Road  
Old Field, New York 11733  
Email: [thefellers@verizon.net](mailto:thefellers@verizon.net) **631-689-9498**

**Registration Deadline: March 1, 2008.** Late fees are added after this date.

### **Len Miller, Convention Co-Chair**

[lom35@groveemail.com](mailto:lom35@groveemail.com) 918-791-9291

### **Keith Johansson, Convention Co-Chair**

[metromaples@yahoo.com](mailto:metromaples@yahoo.com) 817-797-3419

## Schedule of Events

### **Wednesday: April 16, 2008**

ARS Board Meeting - 9:00am - 4:30pm  
Registration - 8:00am - 6:00pm  
Dinner - Use local restaurants  
Hooting (Social Hour) - 6:00pm - 7:00pm  
Round-Up - Oral Roberts University singers, 7:30pm  
Barry Fuggatt, renown Oklahoman speaker,  
8:00pm "Northeast Oklahoma Gardens"  
Plant sale - 9:30pm - 11:00pm

### **Thursday: April 17, 2008**

Registration - 8:00am - 5:00 pm  
Plant Sale - 8:00am - 5:00pm, and after speakers till 11:00pm.

## Schedule of Events - Thursday Continued

Museums and Garden Tour - 9:30am-4:30pm  
Dinner - use local restaurants  
Hooting (Social Hour) - 6:00pm - 7:00pm  
Pow Wow - Larry Dushane - Native  
American Flutist - 7:30pm  
Tijds Huisman, speaker, 8:00pm - "New Rhododendrons from the Old Country"

### **Friday: April 18, 2008**

Garden Tours in Grove, OK - 7:45am - 5:30pm  
Chuck Wagon Barbeque - *Western Wear Night*  
7:00pm - 8:00pm  
Pow Wow - Willamae and Friends, 8:00pm  
Steve Krebs, speaker, 9:00pm, "Hybridizing for Disease Resistance"  
Plant Sale - after speaker till 11:00pm

### **Saturday - April 19, 2008**

Linnaeus and Tulsa Gardens Tour- 8:30am-3:30pm  
Plant Sale - Open to the public, 8:30am - 5:00pm  
Shipping - 3:30pm - 5:30pm, help is available with boxing/shipping of plants  
Laura Grant talks ARS - 4:00pm - 5:00pm  
Hooting (Social Hour) - 6:00pm - 7:00pm  
Okie Banquet - 7:00pm - 8:00pm  
Pow Wow - Jana Jae, "Fiddlin' Around", 8:00pm  
Awards and Annual Meeting ARS, 8:30pm  
Keith Johansson & Friends, speaker, 9:30pm ,  
"Rhodies In The Wild West"

### **Sunday - April 20, 2008**

Hybridizer's Round Table - 9:30am - 11:00am  
Alan Anderson, moderator

Post Convention Trip to Branson, MO. - contact Willamae, 1-918-786-5222 for itinerary.  
Everyone please bring flower trusses and photos for exhibition during plant sale hours.

# Rhododendrons In The Wild West

## Registration Form



*Name 1*

Please print names as you would like them to appear on badges.

*Name 2*

*Name*

*3*

*Name 4*

1	2	3	4	Event (Check boxes to left to indicate attendee's choice)	No.	Price	Total
				Early Registration (Received by March 1, 2008)		\$40	
				Late Registration (Received after March 1, 2008)		\$60	
				ARS Board of Directors Luncheon (Wednesday)		\$25	
				Hotel Breakfast Buffet (Thursday)		\$15	
				Museums and Garden Tour ( Thursday - includes lunch)		\$42	
				Garden Tours in Grove, OK ( Friday - includes breakfast/lunch)		\$45	
				Chuck Wagon Barbeque (Friday)		\$40	
				Hotel Breakfast Buffet (Saturday)		\$15	
				Linnaeus and Tulsa Tour (Saturday - includes lunch)		\$40	
				Banquet (Saturday – Prime Rib)		\$45	
Please fill out this form, detach, and return with payment to registrar.						<b>Total Enclosed</b>	

Indicate Special Dietary Needs or Requests for Vegetarian Meals: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate membership information below, and if you are a Society Officer, Director, or Chapter President.

ARS Primary Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Office: \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment may be made by Check or VISA/MASTERCARD.**

**Please make your check payable to: ARS Convention 2008.**

All checks must be made in US Dollars drawn against a US Bank.

*Commencing February 26, 2008 Registration confirmation will be sent by e-mail or US mail if no e-mail address is provided.*

VISA     MASTERCARD (check one)

Name as it appears

On credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

3-digit security code on the back of the card: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rhododendrons In The  
Wild West  
Registration Dates**

March 1, 2008 – early  
registration ends.

April 1, 2008 – Hotel  
Convention rate ends.

Send check or credit information with completed registration form to:

**Bruce and Marianne Feller - Registrars**

**88 Old Field Road**

**Old Field, New York 11733**

**Email: [thefellers@verizon.net](mailto:thefellers@verizon.net)**

**631-689-9498**

Comments:

- To attend any of the convention activities you must be registered.
- Your registration form must be received on or before March 1, 2008.
- Late registration fee must be paid after March 1, 2008.
- Contact the Doubletree Hotel Warren Place directly. Mention you are with the American Rhododendron Society to receive the \$96 rate. Make reservations before April 1, 2008.
- A full refund is possible if the request is received on or before April 1, 2008.
- No registration fee will be charged for children under 12 with registered parent.
- These registration forms are also available online for download at: [www.rhododendron.org](http://www.rhododendron.org)

**Heat Tolerant Rhododendron Plant Sale - Professional Entertainment Every Night -  
Gardens - Beautiful Convention Pin - Buffalo BBQ - Lively Speakers - "It'll Be A Hoot"**

## Convention Garden Tours

**Thursday: 4/17/07**

Tulsa's finest museums, Gilcrease and Philbrook, both have gardens full of azaleas and perennials. The Philbrook Museum, an Italianate villa built on 23 lush acres in 1927 by oilman Waite Phillips, has English style gardens, and a collection of European and Western art. An exquisite lunch in the museum is included. The Gilcrease Museum has the finest collection of American Western art in the world and several acres of azaleas. See the rugged old west in the works of Remington, Russell, Catlin and Moran.

**Tour cost: \$42**

**Friday: 4/18/07**

Four gardens are scheduled. Grab a Breakfast-On-The-Go, load the bus to Grove to visit Lendonwood Gardens, Elk Ridge and the gardens of Jim and Madeline Osborne and Ronald and Annette Williams.

Lendonwood Gardens is a display garden for the ARS with 600 varieties of rhododendrons and azaleas. The garden was built by Len Miller, past president of the ARS. It is a botanical garden with seven theme gardens. It has many Japanese influences with three Zen gardens and a Japanese pavilion overlooking a pond with the traditional island and three stones. Lendonwood received a design award from the Western Nurseryman Association. There are seven collections of plants: rhododendron-azaleas (600), Japanese maples (75), hemerocallis (500), hosta (125), cornus (25), viburnum (26), conifers (175) and magnolias (20).

The Osborne and Williams are neighbors and have rhododendrons, magnolias, tulips, and hundreds of perennials. 'Green Giant' arborvitae and a magnolia ashii greet you as you pass to the backyard, which slopes with wooden walkways and waterfalls to a view of Grand Lake. A buffet lunch at the Cowskin Prairie Restaurant is included.

Elk Ridge is the home of Len and Donna Miller, with three acres of gardens. There is a half-mile of garden paths with over four thousand plants. The woody collection is around 550 plants with half being elepidote rhododendrons and two hundred varieties of conifers. Their log home sets on an 85-foot cliff with a spectacular view of the Elk River arm of Grand Lake. The jewel of the garden is a Japanese Tea house built on the cliff. There is a greenhouse with a koi pond and exotic parrots.

**Tour cost: \$45**

**Saturday: 4/19/07**

The new Linnaeus Garden in Woodward Park is a teaching garden named after the father of botany. A seven foot bronze statue of Linnaeus is placed at the end of a long paved terrace, framed by a row of one hundred year old juniper trees. A dramatic water feature showcases new plants, including roses and trees. Two hundred trained master gardeners maintain the garden.

Nearby is Woodward Park that was planted with thousands of azaleas thirty-five years ago. A catered lunch is provided in the Tulsa Garden Center, originally built in 1919 as a 21-room private residence. A bonsai exhibition is nearby. Next door is the beautiful Rose Garden and a museum run by the Tulsa Historical Society where you can learn about Tulsa's first people, the Creek Indians, and the oil strike at Glen Pool in 1905 that became the largest in the world and made the Oklahoma and Indian Territories the center for oil exploration.

A short drive through heavily wooded estates is the beautiful home of Jim and Sarah Baily. These great gardeners have about everything that can be grown in Oklahoma including rhododendrons. There is a large water feature with large koi fish, tulips of every color, perennials to keep the flower show going, and a variety of rare trees and shrubs.

Forest Hollow Estate is the vision that has become reality for Breniss and Daniel O'Neal. Owning a landscape design business has enabled them to bring fantasy to life in their home and gardens. This estate has planted 900 evergreen trees and shrubs and 1800 azaleas but has preserved nature and is certified as a Wildlife Habitat. The garden has been featured in Better Homes and Gardens and many others. **Tour cost: \$40**

### Plant Sale

Be prepared to select from over forty named varieties of ultra heat tolerant rhododendrons hybridized in Louisiana by John Thornton using *R. hyperythrum* as one of the parents. You'll also find Japanese maples such as 'Moonrise', which is a new, more colorful and sun tolerant version of the Golden Fullmoon maple. The first cultivar of *Acer truncatum*, 'Fire Dragon' will also be available. Help with shipping is available on Saturday, 3:30pm – 5:30pm.

## **ARS 2008 Convention, Tulsa, OK** **Speakers and Entertainers**

### **Barry Fugatt** – “Northeast Oklahoma Gardens”

Barry has a B.S. degree in ornamental horticulture and a Masters in environmental horticulture. He began his career with Monrovia Nursery and later joined the staff of Oklahoma State University as an Extension horticulturist. He became Director of the Tulsa office in 1994. He now is the Director of Horticulture at the Tulsa Garden Center.

As an Extension horticulturist, Barry taught classes on landscape design, plant materials, perennials, annuals and lawn care. The lecture series averaged over 1,000 participants each year. He is the founder of the newest and most unique garden gift to Tulsa, the Linnaeus Teaching Garden that opened June 8, 2006. This 2 million dollar garden includes a gorgeous water feature and several hundred exquisite plant species.

Barry works closely with wholesale and retail nurserymen, arborist and other green-industry organizations. He writes a popular garden column that appears regularly in the Tulsa World Newspaper and contributes garden columns to magazines and is frequently called on for radio and television interviews.

### **Tijs Huisman** – “New Plants From The Old World”

A rhododendron and azalea lover thru and thru, Tijs (pronounced Tice) has been growing them in the Netherlands for 23 years. In 1984 he started hybridizing and has done 1,500 crosses. A northern German nursery is currently testing 120 of his new hybrids.

He was a language teacher for 30 years and has lectured many times in the U.S. He also is an avid photographer and has an excellent website, rhodoland.nl.

### **Keith Johansson** – “Rhodies In the Wild West”

Keith grew up in Bartlesville, OK and received a B.S. in Finance from the University of Tulsa and worked for 15 years in a large Tulsa oil company. He fell in love with rhododendrons in 1986 and has been the Ozark Chapter President since 1996. He also writes the hilarious column in the chapter's newsletter, called *‘The Rhodie Compost Pile.’*

In 1994 he started a six-acre tree farm called Metro Maples in Fort Worth, Texas, and claims to have cleared the land of oaks, green briar, and poison ivy, the way they did it in the Old West, with nothing but a shovel, saw, wheelbarrow, and Felco #7.

Besides rhododendrons and maples, Keith has collected over 300 varieties of azaleas, mostly from cuttings, and has a special love for satsuki. He has played clarinet for 43 years and was a successful private lessons teacher. He will give you a tour of “Rhodies in the Wild West”, and might even sound a little bit like John Wayne.

### **Dr. Stephen Krebs** – “Hybridizing for Disease Resistance”

Steve is the Director of the David G. Leach Research Station of the Holden Arboretum and does scientific work with plant genetics and breeding, disease resistance, physiology of cold acclimation and winter freezing tolerance in rhododendron. He will speak on his new hybridizing program, including work with *R. hyperythrum* to reduce soil fungus problems.

### **Larry Dushane** – Native American Flutist

Dressed in authentic clothing and playing a hand carved flute, Larry Dushane will weave a tapestry of spiritual sounds that will reveal the past moods and feelings of Oklahoma's first settlers.

### **Jana Jae** – Violinist

Whether Jan Jae is performing Bach's Double Concerto For Two Violins or bringing a country fair crowd to it's feet with a sizzling rendition of “Orange Blossom Special,” she's the kind of unforgettable performer who leaves her audience wanting more.

Jana's parents met in New York while studying violin at Julliard. Her grandfather was a champion fiddler from Oklahoma. Jana started violin at age 2 and trained at the Vienna Academy of Music and has performed with Buck Owens, Roy Clark, the Oak Ridge Boys, and many others, but she is best on her own with her one-of-a-kind style.

### **Willamae** – Comedian

Patty Beth Anderson plays her character, Willamae, in the style of Minnie Pearl. She'll take a critical look at our beloved ARS and have you falling out of your seat.