



Piedmont/Blue Ridge Horticulture Society

May 2010



We have a flowery way to celebrate the abundance, fragrance, and beauty of late spring with a trip to Etlan, Virginia on **May 22** from 2-4 PM to revel in peonies!



blueraggardens.com

It will be a beautiful day in the country. Bring your friends, have a great lunch at one of several terrific restaurants, wear comfortable clothes, and get ready for a relaxed way to finish spring and start summer.

Finding Blue Rag Gardens is easy!

FROM SOUTH
(Charlottesville): Route 29 N to Madison then N on Route. 231 toward Sperryville. We are on the right, 9 miles north of Madison. Our sign is beside the driveway

FROM NORTH (Washington D.C. or Northern Virginia): Route 29 S to Warrenton, then business 29 into Warrenton. Turn right on Route 211 W at Howard Johnson's. It is about 33 miles to Sperryville. Go left on 231/522. Go one block to "T", turn left, and then 1 mile to right on 231 S. It is about 12 miles to our gardens on the left. Our sign is beside the driveway.

We are about 10-12 miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway. Graves Mountain Lodge is 5-6 miles around the mountain. Several restaurants are within a few minutes drive. Hiking at Old Rag Mountain is 15 minutes away. Bed and breakfasts and wineries are all around us. The trip makes for a lovely day or weekend in the country.

If you have any trouble finding us, just give us a call at 540-923-4234.



Join us to learn about Virginia winemaking and sample a few!

Doug Fabboli will tell us everything we need to know about selecting and growing wine grapes and their transformation into wine.

June 12 at Blandy Library 2-4PM
A fee of \$5.00 will be charged to all participants to comply with all that legal stuff.



On **September 25**, we will sponsor a very special tour of the private home and gardens of **Sam and Michele Mitchell** in Warrenton.

The Mitchells are developing a beautiful and extensive nature preserve with new woodlands and meadows that replace and enliven former rolling lawns. At the same time, formal boxwood allées, cutting and vegetable gardens, and a lovely patio planting complete the grounds.

There will be morning or afternoon tours with advance ticket sales at \$15.00 for members. Non-members can purchase a \$25 ticket that will include a three-month PBR trial membership.

The **October 16** program will feature Queen of Boxwood **Joan Butler**. Joan is a life member of the Board of Directors of the American Boxwood Society. She had a boxwood nursery with her husband Scot in Lovettsville for many years and has a broad range of information on how to grow beautiful boxwood. Since Blandy houses the world's most extensive boxwood collection, Joan will have live examples of best varieties to show us. Don't miss this very special presentation with a living legend.





On **November 20**, horticulture celebrity **Brent Heath** of Brent and Becky's Bulbs of Gloucester, Virginia will speak to us at Blandy Library. After three generations of daffodil and bulb growing as a family business, Brent is an amazing resource of information. He will inform, delight, and amuse our members. Bring all your questions about bulbs – Brent is the answer man!

We were wondering if the members would like to have an online discussion group. There are free yahoo groups that people can join and email questions, answers, critiques, and congratulations with abandon. We could set one up for the membership. So, please think about it and let us know. You can send your ideas to d.williamson@pbrhs.org and thanks!