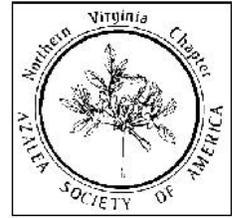


TheAzaleaClipper

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Northern Virginia Chapter, Azalea Society of America



Frances Louer, 7/8/24 – 6/17/13

A founding member of our chapter.

Co-founder and publisher of the Clipper, with husband Phil, for 30 years. Details in the October issue.

Cutting Exchange Sunday, July 14 1 pm – 5 pm

We'll be enjoying the hospitality of Bonnie and Frank Pattie, overlooking the Potomac River and next door to the Hoioos', where we had the cutting exchange 3 years ago. Please call them ahead of time at 1-540-659-2562, or write them at jfpattie@aol.com, to allow a head-count for planning purposes. Directions are on p. 6.

Check out the instructions for taking cuttings (p. 3) if you are unclear. Bring plants in pots if you wish. **And ... don't forget:** a potluck dish for us to enjoy, **and** lawn chairs!



Pete Vines hybrid 'Tropicana', by David Nanney



Vines hybrid 'Saint Moritz', by David Nanney



At the March joint meeting with the PVC-ARS **Norm Beaudry** discusses searching for the perfect Rhododendron



A part of the audience at the joint 3/10/13 meeting.
Below: **Green Spring** sale, photos by **Carolyn Beck**



President's Message

Susan and I just got back from a short, but great trip to the Smokies where we made our first visit to Roan Mountain. We were a little premature for seeing the rhododendron and azaleas in peak bloom; however we did see some early bloomers and had fantastic views. This was thanks to **Don Hyatt** and **George McLellan** who arranged the trip. We also had the opportunity to visit **J Jackson**, President of the ASA and **Lindy Johnson** at their beautiful home in Trade, TN as well as purchase some beautiful native azaleas at their nursery, Appalachian Native Plants.

Activities such as these, which are open to all members of our chapter, are what make our organization such a great one to belong to. Many of the activities offered to members are suggested and/or organized by members of the chapter or sister organizations. So far this year, members have been offered the opportunity to travel to North Carolina to visit their first rate nurseries (courtesy of **Joe Marsala**), visit gardens in the Richmond area (courtesy of **Landon Davis**) and see native azaleas in the Smoky Mountains (courtesy of Don and George).

In addition to those activities mentioned above, we have a full calendar of events due to the efforts of our members and collaboration

with other groups. I encourage each of you to participate in the process. If you are willing to sponsor or co-sponsor an event, know of a good speaker who might be of interest to the chapter membership, or are otherwise able to help with our activities, it improves the experience for all of us. I personally want to thank everyone who has made this year a success so far.

In July we'll have our annual cutting exchange. This year we are holding it at the home of **Bonnie** and **Frank Pattie**. Their beautiful home and garden sit on the Potomac River in Stafford. Additional information is located elsewhere in this issue of the Clipper. In October we will hold our annual Azalea Sale and Auction. This year it will be held at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church on Carrleigh Parkway in Springfield (thanks to **Lars Larson**). This is a great location and we hope to have a good turnout as a result. Since it will be held at a church, we are moving the date from Sunday 13 October to Saturday 12 October. Please update your calendars and hopefully you will be able to join us.

Again, thanks to all of you who have worked so hard to make this year a success. I hope to see many of you on July 14th at the Pattie's.

Rick

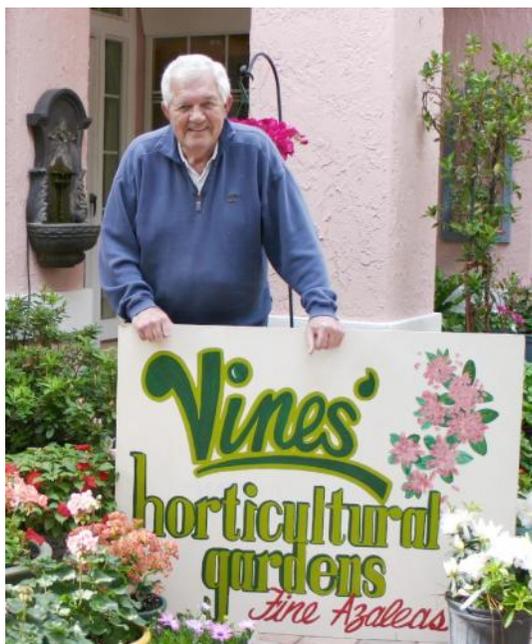
Taking Cuttings

Select cuttings from **new growth found at the terminal branch ends** (avoid branches that have produced "sport" blossoms uncharacteristic of the named variety). Collect cuttings **after the stems are fully mature**, but before they turn woody. The parent plants must be in good health. A good time to take the cuttings is in the **early morning**. If drought conditions are present, **water the plants well the evening before**. Select stems of medium diameter rather than thin weak wood. Place cuttings (4 to 6) from each plant in a separate plastic bag (identified by the parent variety) along with a few drops of water, and seal it to retain 100% humidity inside. Print the name of the plant variety on the outside of the bag, along with a short description of the plant. **Avoid overheating in direct sunlight**. Cuttings should be stuck in the rooting medium as soon as possible after taking them, though they can be stored in a closed container in the refrigerator for up to a week prior to sticking them. {Ask our experts about growing cuttings when you meet them at the exchange!}

Pete Vines' Holly Springs Azaleas – Legacy Project Update

David Nanney

Most of you have visited Leslie and my 2½ acre azalea garden in Springfield, Virginia. Over a third of our garden beds are dedicated to single collections including Buddy Lee's Encores, Bob Gartrell's Robin Hills, Ben Morrison's Back Acre azaleas, and many more. When we moved to our current home over 26 years ago, one of the first beds identified and developed was one dedicated to our former neighbor Pete Vines. Pete lived a couple of blocks from our previous home, worked at the Pentagon, and had begun to release some incredible new selections when we moved to this location. His was the largest dedicated garden bed in our yard, and quickly became the repository of almost 1,000 plants being held pending development of specific beds.



Pete Vines, 3/10/11, photo courtesy of Carolyn Beck

were added to our collection to create a comprehensive set of Holly Spring azaleas.

This March while preparing Pete's bed for planting, I had a BFO (blinding flash of the obvious). This grouping of plants is a significant resource to anyone with an interest in azaleas. In 2013 we intend to work with Larry Martin and Carolyn Beck to validate the identification of all the plants. Working with Barry Sperling we are going to develop a collection of photographs so that we will have available for viewing, and propagating, the entire collection of Holly Spring azaleas.

Several years ago, Don Voss created a CD documenting the Robin Hill azaleas in a manner never before accomplished. Recently Dan Krabil, working with Barbara Bullock of the National Arboretum, had accumulated a comprehensive photo record of the Glenn Dale azalea collection. The Holly Spring azaleas are worthy of a similar analysis and we propose to make our collection available for that purpose.

First, we are opening our garden and inviting all of our chapter members to visit and observe our garden with particular emphasis on the Holly Spring azaleas. We want to collect as many observations and opinions as possible so we can produce a "good list" based on observations in the garden. We want Carolyn and Larry to visit early and often to verify the plants, and to help us document the plant habit.

Thus came the problem. This bed was unloaded during the three years before we hosted the national azalea convention in 2009, leaving Pete's bed a minefield of holes. A second bed devoted to the work of Joe Klimavicz also suffered from being a holding bed. Unfortunately, Joe visited our garden at the time, and saw the very unfinished bed. His plants were centered amidst a large number of empty holes, disappointing him and us.

So today's update is significantly more positive. We have completed this season's work with 65 of the 92 named Holly Spring collection in their permanent planting positions. We have another 12 smaller plants in our grow bed gaining size before joining their larger siblings. This leaves 11 plants we do not have, of which two, Zodiac and Twinkle Toes, appear to be out of the trade.

Several of the plants were contributed to the Northern Virginia Chapter by Bill Maulk, a former chapter member. He was moving and had a large collection of plants bought from Pete, and maintained in pots for years. These plants

Finally, we want to make the garden available as a source of verified, described plants as we believe Pete's work is truly worth having in the garden.

If anyone is interested in accumulating a complete collection of the Holly Springs, we have accumulated several duplicate plants, which we would like to release to aid in that effort. We would obviously support taking of cuttings and growing of additional plants to support the "plants for members" program.

The "Legacy Project" concept was introduced this spring in recognition that one of our most valuable chapter assets is our local hybridizers. They spend decades developing, evaluating, and releasing selections which are available first, and sometimes only, to local members. The Legacy Project will help formalize efforts to identify and preserve information about our treasures and will help insure those efforts are captured and available to future generations. Our work with the Holly Springs azaleas is in keeping with this concept.

Actions:

If you are interested in creating a personal collection of Pete's Holly Spring azaleas, please get in touch with us. We have a few plants to release, and will work with you to insure you have access to everything we have.

If you are interested in selected plants, again please get in touch with us so we can work with you to take cuttings, and acquire plants.

If you are simply interested in seeing a comprehensive collection of the Holly Spring azaleas in one place, well documented, and verified, plan to visit!

Green Spring Sale In May

Once again, the Chapter participated in the Green Spring Gardens annual Plant Sale. This was one of the major fund raisers for the Chapter and was also an opportunity to make the public aware of our organization. While the weather was a little overcast and the threat of rain may have kept the crowds down, we had a successful sale. 73 plants were sold and the revenue was over \$500.

The chapter would like to thank:

Paul Davis, Pati Gabaldoni, Larry Martin, David & Patsy Meadows, Lee McElvain, Jeanne White, Barry Sperling, Leslie Nanney, Lars Larson, Norma Merritt, and Paul & Carolyn Beck for assisting in conducting the sale. The latter 2 especially for growing and hauling many of the plants!

White Garden Workdays

Thursdays, 9-12N:
July 25, August 22, October 24

3301 Hawthorne Lane, Falls Church, Virginia
Directions: From Annandale Rd (just south of the intersection with Kerns Rd), turn east on Holloman Rd. Take next left on Princess Anne Ln. From the end of the paved road continue into the park.

Contact **Mary Olien**:

mary.oliem@fairfaxcounty.gov, 703-642-5173
also:703-642-0073 (for an updated weather plan message)

National Arboretum Mid-Week Closings

This is more based on the sequester rather than the previous unpleasantness: the National Arboretum closes to the public Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays starting 14 May. The text of the Director's message is located on our website under [Archives/Notices](#).

If you can supply these cuttings:

Rick Bauer would like any of the **Sandra McDonald** varieties

Carolyn Beck would like any of these **Marshy Point Hybrids**:

Anne Harris, Annie (or Anne) Reinhoff, Austin, Autumn Glory, Autumn Star, Babs, Baby Doll, End Zone, Entrepreneur, Gone Fishin', Heart Throb, Holy Cody, Hot Pants, Hugs, Kisses, Laurie Russell, Little Jewel, Lolly, Love Lace, Low Down White, Marlyn Merlot, Melba's Dream, Ocean City, Pam's Passion, Pink Sky, Powder Cheeks, Sarah's Wedding, Sizzling Red, Soft Touch, Stiletto syn Penknife, Tidal Wave, Tightwad, Two Timer, Wedding Day, White Goddess, Young Dorothy

www.nv-asa.org

Paul Beck has been working hard on our chapter website and it looks great! Log-in to receive access to the "members only" section, which includes the member directory and financial statements. Announcements and plant information are being continually updated.

If you can provide some backup assistance to Paul on site maintenance please contact him.

Directions to the July 14th Cutting Exchange at the Pattie's in Stafford Co.

583 Marlborough Point Rd; 540-659-2562; jfpattie@aol.com

I-95 take exit 140

Toward Stafford (0.2 mi)

From the North: Left onto Courthouse Rd./ VA 630 for 3.5 mi.

From the South: Right onto Courthouse Rd./Va 630 for 3.5 mi.

Right on Andrew Chapel/VA 629 for 0.9 mi

Slight Left onto Brooke Rd./VA 608 for 3.4 mi

Right onto Marlborough Point Rd. for 2.3 mi

583 is on the left

2013

July 14 Cutting Exchange at the Pattie's

October 12, Saturday Plant Auction and Sale, Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, Carrleigh Pkwy., Springfield

November 17 Meeting with speaker

December 8 Holiday Social

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