



The Azalea Clipper

Northern Virginia Chapter, Azalea Society of America

Volume 28, Issue 2



Chapter Member Garden Tours, *Membership*

May 2007						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

*May 5th--
Local
Member
Garden
Tours,
9:30 AM
Directions
on page four*

The Chapter has planned tours for May 5th to include the gardens of Dan and Barbara Krabill, Don Hyatt, Joe and Brenda Klimivicz, and ending up at Phil and Frances Louer's near Haymarket. We will meet in McLean at Dan & Barbara Krabill's garden at 9:30 a.m. (see directions on page 4) and plan to leave around 10:15. We will then meet at a nearby shopping center (to be determined before that date) where we will carpool on to Lorraine Ave. to visit Don Hyatt's garden. There aren't many opportunities to visit other members' gardens so this is a fantastic opportunity for the membership to join in fun and fellowship for this exciting spring venture. After Don's we'll all meet at T.G.I. Friday at Tyson's Corner for lunch and then head a few minutes away to our own hybridizer Joe Klimavicz's garden to view his latest hybrids, finishing at approximately 2:15 or so.

From there we are invited to Frances & Phil Louer's amazing Phran's Azalea Trails

out 66 West to the Haymarket area to see their over 9,000 plants, several thousand of these in full bloom!! Many of the members, including your president, have never seen the Louer's garden in bloom so this is your perfect opportunity to join us all! Lots and lots of the Gear's azaleas will be offered for sale to the members and guests for a nominal \$4-\$5 each for these rare and rarely seen plants. Not at Betty's, Merrifield, Meadows Farms, etc., etc.

Dan Krabill, our convention president, has called a convention committee meeting after the Louer's tour. We will choose from the azaleas left which we will use for cuttings and discuss in detail the Plant Sale, possible tours for the convention as well as choosing speakers for the two evening meetings and banquet. Also discussed will be the need to visit the "tour gardens" for pictures for promotions for the convention so this meeting is a very important one and we hope everyone who can help will be able to attend.

From the President *Eve Harrison*

I've been gardening intensively since 1971 and this year has been the weirdest and most trying but also very rewarding.... we had no winter until Jan. 21st and then it seemed we were in the tundra until sometime in March when an early "spring" arrived enticing loads of plants back out again. Beautiful stands of trilliums, bloodroot, Lenten Roses (for the second attempt), miniature iris and even ferns dared to show up.

Then.... April 6 we found ourselves pulling out huge pots yet again to race to cover as many azaleas and camellias that were showing color up here on the ridge in zone 6b. We had taken advantage of spring sales and unseasonable warmth to install large numbers of deciduous azaleas, rhododendrons, mahonia, aucuba, 9 bark, all with new leaves and swelling buds, only to haul out everything possible to protect them. I still haven't ventured underneath to see how things fared, this April 9th, as the forecast remains below freezing for yet another day! I hope for us all that this is the last blast, giving the poor blooms their fair opportunity to show off.

Meantime, I'm off to put in peas, spinach, lettuce, potatoes and other cold weather "crops". Bob is, as I write, installing Deer Fencing around the vegetable garden since we have daily visitors just waiting

for the spinach again. They're quite miffed at my use of Liquid Fence for the ornamental gardens but soon I hope they realize "their place" is in the meadow eating grass, not spinach or azaleas!

PLANT ACQUISITION OUTING

On March 21st, Bob & I left 7 a.m. for Jim Gears' nursery near Nottingham, PA. and arrived approximately 12:30 p.m. We got lost toward the end of the journey (normal for us!) and began to despair when I spotted a road mentioned in the directions. After a couple of more "stumbles" with no road signs apparent, we spotted a "city van", as I called it, pulling into a barnyard. Intuition told me it was Leslie Nanney's and gratefully, we discovered it was! Since we live far into the Blue Ridge Mtns. we know when certain vehicles look "out of place" and that helped tell me Leslie was right in front of us!!!

Only half-daft azaleaphiles would travel for hours to pic tag by tag through hundreds of pots of azaleas in a freezing barn! Bob slogged tray after tray outside to be counted later while Don Hyatt, Frances Louer, Leslie Nanney and I painstakingly searched through the offerings looking for great plants for cuttings for the '09 convention as well as possible plants to sell for the chapter at a couple of upcoming plant sales.

After we arrived Jim took us on a quick tour of his

barn nursery which featured wonderful specimens of deciduous azaleas and another barn with ferns and emerging wildflowers. This is a wonderful resource if you're ever in the area. Bob and I added a gorgeous yellow deciduous azalea and several trilliums, iris and ladies tresses to our wildflower collection.

We left long before I would have preferred but the ever present rush hour loomed near so I wistfully looked back at a great plant source before heading back pulling a trailer load of plants for our chapter's upcoming usages. What a great experience!

Eve Harrison,
President

Upcoming Meetings-
(1) Azalea Cutting Exchange, and
(2) Chapter Plant auction.
Dates will be announced shortly

Previous Chapter Meeting February 18 2007

Do you enjoy music? Do you enjoy taking pictures of your flowers? Why not combine the two and make a music video of your favorite azaleas in bloom?

At our last meeting, Don Hyatt showed some of the music videos he has been making recently. Anyone who has been with Don on a hiking trip or on a garden tour has surely seen the array of cameras he now carries with him. In addition to his Nikon 35 mm camera, he now totes a Kodak digital camera and a Sony mini camcorder, as well as all the associated supplies.

Don has made a number of short music videos that he shared with us, including native azaleas and rhododendrons in bloom along the Appalachian Trail set to Aaron Copland's "Appalachian Spring". He also has some clips of this October's lovely fall foliage in the Blue Ridge Mountains set to a New Age instrumental, and he will certainly show "Bubba", the 10 point buck that ravages his garden, which he has set to a Bach Concerto.

Don also took a few minutes in the middle of his program to show us how to make a music video. The process is not too difficult or technical. He is using some user-friendly software called Windows Movie Maker that came with his last computer. He briefly demonstrated all the aspects of

the process. He talked about how to transfer video from a camcorder to a computer and how to use the software to edit movie segments so they sync with the digitized music.

He showed how to add a few video transitions, video effects, and add titles. Finally, he discussed how to take the finished movie and put it on a DVD disk that can play on a home TV system. He also showed us how to take standard still graphic images and set them to music using the same software.

This was a very educational experience to anyone who is very knowledgeable on the computer, but very impressive to all attending. Don's outstanding artistic characteristics are quite evident in the high quality of the videos. Viewing these videos and realizing how the computer facilitates the production conveys the belief that there is no limit to what one can do with time and effort.

Azalea Society of America

-NEW OFFICERS

At the recent National Convention of the Azalea Society in Nacogdoches Texas, new officers were elected for the upcoming year.

John Brown is now President and Aaron Cook is now Vice President. Carol Flowers remains as Secretary.

Dan Krabill from our own chapter was elected Treasurer of the Society.

Also, David Nanney from our chapter was elected to the Board for a three-year term.

Our congratulations go to Dan and Dave for their election. Both Dan and Dave have served several terms of office in the Chapter, to include both President and Vice President. Dave is the current Treasurer in the Chapter.

The Azalea Clipper is published BI-monthly by the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Azalea Society of America. The officers of this Chapter are:

President:	Eve Harrison	(540)778-1945
Vice President:	Barry Sperling	(703)765-7062
Secretary:	Jane Newman	(703)759-2574
Treasurer:	David Nanney	(703)644-5651
Corresponding Secretary:	Frances Louer	(703)754-2824

News items may be provided to **Frances Louer**,
15800 Palmer Lane, Haymarket, VA 20169-1808.
E-mail: plouer@msn.com

Directions to the Krabills—First Stop on Tour

FROM THE BELTWAY IN VIRGINIA

1. Take I 66 Exit East toward Washington
2. About 3.5 miles inside the Beltway on I66, take the Westmoreland Street exit
3. Turn left toward Westmoreland Street
4. After 0.1 mile, go left onto Westmoreland Street
5. After 0.3 mile, turn right at light onto Williamsburg Blvd
6. After 2.3 miles (including going around a little circle), turn left at light onto Glebe Road
7. After about 1 mile on Glebe Road, turn left onto River Street
8. After 0.5 mile on River Street, turn left onto Highwood at top of hill
9. After 0.1 mile, turn left onto Laburnum
10. After 0.3 mile, turn left onto Copely Lane
11. 6009 is third house on left counting the house on the corner

FROM TYSONS CORNER

1. Take Route 123 towards McLean
2. Turn right at light onto Old Dominion
3. After about 3 miles, turn left at light onto Williamsburg
4. Turn left at light onto Glebe Road
5. Pick up from step 7 on the directions from I66

FROM ARLINGTON/ALEXANDRIA AREAS

1. Take Glebe Road north past the light at Lee Highway (Route 29)
2. After about 2.2 miles, turn left on River Street
3. Pick up from step 7 on directions from I66

If you get lost or need help, call 703-534-7441.

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Northern Virginia Chapter,
Azalea Society of America



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Haymarket, VA 20169-1808

GARDEN TOURS
SATURDAY MAY 5TH
9:30 AM EDT
