



The Azalea Clipper

Northern Virginia Chapter, Azalea Society of America

Volume 26, Issue 6

Holiday Social Observance, *Membership*

This is a special meeting in the spirit of the approaching holidays. The main event will be “socializing with each other”, as we often do (sometimes extendedly) prior to our regular meetings. There will be a short business meeting, as Dan Krabill has some urgent business to get done. See his article on page two for more information. And, we will have refreshments.

The meeting will be at the home of Dan and Barbara Krabill in North Arlington/McLean area. Directions to their home are on page 2. We appreciate greatly the Krabill’s offering of their home for this event.

Remember, this is an informal gathering and exchange of information among us all. Don’t be bashful about bringing pictures, articles, or anything about your gardens or your gardening experiences. Maybe we all can learn from

Meet on 4 December 2005

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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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

each other and end up by having greater success in our future gardening activities.

For refreshments, we are asking each one to bring a dish to celebrate the holidays for a potluck meal. Bring hot or cold foods, salads, and desserts. Coffee and tea will be provided.



There is an old adage that goes like this:

“Learn from the mistakes of others — you can never live long enough to make them all yourself.”

Sounds like one of the benefits of membership in the Azalea Society of America!



*December
4th at the
home of
Dan and
Barbara
Krabill
at
1:30 PM
EST
Directions
on page 3*

From the President

Dan Krabill

Our last meeting of the year will be on Sunday, December 4 at our regular meeting time of 1:30 p. m. It will be a potluck meal with no outside speaker and no formal program. Eve Harrison commented recently that there is not enough time at our meetings for one-on-one discussions with other members to learn about them and their gardens. Since as Vice President she is in charge of programs and since several others also thought that sounded like a good idea, we will be doing that.

Please come with any questions you might have on growing azaleas, particular varieties or hybrid groups, other gardening questions, etc. If you have something you would particularly like to share with the group, please come and tell us about it. If you want to bring pictures of your gardens or of your favorite plants, that will be great. We should have a DVD player available to show pictures that you bring on a CD, if the CD is formatted in a particular way. Please contact me at dkrabill@securagroup.com or 703-534-7441 if you want to bring digital photos on a CD and are not sure how to do it. But mainly, just come, and bring a friend if you would like.

We may also want to have a short business meeting. I participated in a telephone

conference call meeting of the ASA Board earlier this month. Topics that may be of interest to our chapter include: the 2006 joint ASA/ARS Convention to be held primarily in Montgomery County this coming May; the 2008 ASA Convention, which we were originally going to hold in Northern Virginia until the new Alabama Chapter requested to hold, and which they are now backing off from; the new ASA brochure, which should be completed some time during the next several months; the national ASA's financial condition; and the George Harding Garden at the headquarters of the American Horticulture Society along the Potomac south of Alexandria.

I have been organizing the digital photos I have taken of kurumes over the last four years. Kurumes were the first azaleas I had. I still find many of them to be attractive because they generally bloom early, they do not seem to me to have petal blight problems probably because they have come and gone before the onset of petal blight, their colors are bright, and they are easy to root. Some of the kurumes hybridized in this country by Nuccio's are really nice, and the Louers and I have been providing cuttings and plants of them at our cutting exchanges and auctions. Another group of interest is 33 kurumes that were brought over from Japan in 1978, I believe, and introduced by the National Arboretum in 1983. Many of these 33 are beautiful. Unfortunately, the flowers of approximately half of mine do

not come close to matching the written descriptions, or the photos that were taken in Japan by Dr. Yamaguchi and are now posted in the ASA's on-line photo gallery. I checked with Barbara Bullock of the National Arboretum, and she sent me photos of 30 of the 33, almost all of which are of the Arboretum's original plants of these varieties. All but one of my photos seem to match Barbara's. It seems that someone put the wrong names on many of these plants before they were introduced here, perhaps due to confusion resulting from the fact that all of the names we use for them are Americanized versions of their Japanese names.

This has been an unusual fall. After a lot of rain for the year, we went a month or so without rain. We had no frost at our house until about November 17. I just took about 300 rooted cuttings, plus small layered plants and others needing protection, to my in-laws' basement, which is above-ground on one side.

I look forward to seeing you on December 4. It is a Redskins-free Sunday until 4:00.

Dan Krabill, President

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING IS
PLANNED FOR FEBRUARY,
2006.

DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION
WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER

Previous Chapter Meeting September 25, 2005

The September 25th meeting was held at Green Spring Gardens Park.

There was additional discussion of whether the chapter should purchase a digital projector. Phil Louer, who with Don Hyatt had made the arrangements for renting the equipment needed for this meeting, noted some caveats for purchase, e.g., likely decreasing cost industry wide, meticulous care needed in use and storage, and big cost of replacement bulbs. The group decided to continue to rent under the favorable deal with Acuity Audio Visual as needed.

Multiple-science-award-winning high school student Caitlin Klimavicz, daughter of members Joe and Brenda, and a long time attendee of chapter meetings presented the program. From an early age,

she has assisted her father in producing 500 to 1,000 new hybrids each year.

Caitlin talked about and showed slides demonstrating the variety and flexibility of evergreen azaleas, qualities sought for her ideal plant, the process from making a cross to determining after two years the few selected to move from a hoop frame and replace plants already in the ground, the new hybrids deemed worthy of naming, and many flowers still under consideration. In the last category a striking cross of 'Acrobat' by 'Satellite' seemed a sure winner.

Caitlin also discussed briefly her project "Polyploidization of Evergreen Azaleas". Her article on this award-winning project will be printed in the next issue of the Azalean.

Jane Newman, Secretary

DIRECTIONS TO DAN AND BARBARA KRABILL'S HOME

FROM BELTWAY VIA INTERSTATE 66 IN VIRGINIA-

1. Take I 66 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 TYSON'S CORNER-

1. Take Route 123 toward 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 Beltway via I66

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

FROM SOUTH OR EAST-

1. Get on Glebe Road from I66, Route 29, Route 50, or I395
2. Go north and follow step 7 in the directions from the Beltway via I66.

Azalea Society Membership

We all know what it is like to receive a chapter dues notice, lay it aside, and then either forget to pay or think we have paid.

Membership in the ASA runs from January to December each year, and dues notices were sent to members last October. If you have not renewed your membership, please send in your payment as soon as possible. Bob Stelloh is our ASA Treasurer.

His address is:

Bob Stelloh, ASA Treasurer
65 Sierra Drive
Hendersonville NC 28739
Phone: (828) 697-9959

His e-mail is:

bstelloh@mac.com

Don't forget the Northern Virginia Chapter has a nice collection of publications of interest to its members.

The Librarian, Robert Horan, does not transport the stack of books to each meeting. So if you wish to borrow any book from the Library, call Robert prior to an upcoming meeting at 703-455-2674

He will be happy to bring your selections to that meeting. If you have questions, Robert can help you.

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:	Dan Krabill	(703)534-7441
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Northern Virginia Chapter,
Azalea Society of America



Frances Louer, Corresponding Secretary
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*NEXT MEETING,
SUNDAY DECEMBER
4TH
1:30 PM EST*
