

September 2004



The Azalea Clipper

Northern Virginia Chapter, Azalea Society of America

Volume 25, Issue 5

Photos of Glenn Dales, *Dan Krabill*



Dan Krabill, our Chapter Vice President, has accumulated digital photos of 350 - 360 of the 454 Glenn Dale azaleas, the great majority of which were taken in his yard. He will move through quite a few pictures that will be grouped by parentage.

Dan will also talk a bit about some of the hybrid groups, like the early white plants with stripes of various colors that have Vittatum as a parent, and some of his adventures and miss-adventures in collecting the plants and in taking pictures.

From the Pres *Barry Sperling*

The Washington Post had an article on non-native invasive plants a couple of weeks ago: Kudzu, Porcelain Berry, English Ivy, Trumpet Vine, and more. Non-native introductions can be a pain!

Of course, some non-natives need special care and are non-invasive. Our evergreen azaleas are native to hilly uplands: well drained, rocky, getting waterings from frequent showers. When I stick them in my flat lowland clay-fill they die faster than a bug underfoot. In the multi-year drought that we experienced recently I lost many small plants (the larger ones held on). I watered when I had time, but I don't have an irrigation system, so some didn't make it. And some were over-watered and died of root rot. Wouldn't it be something to have an invasive evergreen azalea?

I've tried to emulate some of their environment by building up beds as southeast facing hills. Also, more recently, I've added some perlite to the soil to make it rockier and easier for the roots to penetrate. Many people

Note directions to Green Spring Gardens on page two. These are new directions, do not, repeat, do not try to use the old entrance off of Little River Turnpike.

September 2004

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		

REFRESHMENT DUTY —

For this meeting, the duty falls to those persons whose last names begin with the letters:

A through J

For the next meeting in November, persons whose last names begin with K through P will have the responsibility. 

NEXT CHAPTER

MEETING—
NOVEMBER 21
2004
"TBA"

*September 26th at
the Green Spring
Gardens Park
1:30 P.M.
EDJ*

Dan plans to have CDs available for anyone who has a computer and wants one. This CD should be viewed as the first edition, and will be updated for at least two years.

There will be refreshments as usual. Please check the Refreshment Duty notice to the right to see if you should bring some goodies to eat. ☺

(Continued from page 1, *From the Pres*)

tell me that they solve the problem by simply putting out all of their plants and take a Darwinian approach: if they live, fine; otherwise stick in some more. This does tend to select those that survive naturally in our 6b-7a environments. Another comment I once saw was that "If you aren't killing a lot of plants, then you're not trying!" I understand this experimental philosophy, too, and still...

It does hurt when a plant dies. I want all of them to live. I take it as a personal failure when I lose one. And I'm not that reconciled with failure that it doesn't matter to me. Because it does.

Like a doctor or ambulance driver, you might become so accustomed to death that you might not notice it. The hybridizers in our midst must, due to their space available and attention limitations, kill so many thousands of seedling every year that I'm sure they've become hardened to it. And still...

Barry

A public library is the most enduring of memorials, the trustiest monument for the preservation of an event or a name or an affection; for it, and it only, is respected by wars and revolutions, and survives them.

—Mark Twain

Our Chapter has a library, Robert Horen (703-455-2674) is our Librarian. Call for book reservations.

(NEW) Directions to Green Spring Gardens Park

Green Spring Gardens Park is located on Braddock Road just off Little River Turnpike (Rte. 236) between Annandale and the Shirley Highway (I-395).

From I-495: Take Exit 52B (Little River Turnpike East.) Travel 3.5 miles. Turn left on Braddock Road. Park entrance is Witch Hazel Road on the right.

From I-395: Take Exit 3B (Little River Turnpike West.) Travel 1.25 miles. Turn right on Braddock Road. Park entrance is Witch Hazel Road on the right.

Green Spring Gardens is sponsoring an all-day workshop for the home gardener on October 23, 2004 from 8 AM to 4 PM. The subject is "Gardening in Small Spaces". The cost is \$90 per person.

Register by October 18th—call 703-642-5173, or go to -

www.greenspring.org

THANKS TO THE NANNEY'S

Those who attended the last Chapter meeting on August 29th enjoyed a delightful time at Dave and Leslie Nanney's home for the annual plant auction. It was a very pleasant afternoon, a little warm, but there were lots of excellent plants auctioned at prices you wouldn't believe. We express sincere gratitude to the Nanney's for their hospitality.

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

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Northern Virginia Chapter, Azalea Society of America

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**Next Chapter Meeting -
September 26th, 1:30 PM DST
"Photos of Glenn Dales", Dan Krabill**