



The Azalea Clipper

Northern Virginia Chapter, Azalea Society of America

Volume 24, Issue 5



Glenn Dales, Glenn Dale, and Related Azalea Issues, *William C. Miller III*

Our speaker for this meeting is Bill Miller, and avid azalea hobbyist since the early 1970's. He has been very active in the Azalea Society of America (ASA) from its beginning, both with the local Brookside Gardens Chapter, where he served as chapter president for three years, and at the national level, where he served first as a director and then as national vice president. For five years, he was the director of Science and Education for THE AZALEAN, the quarterly journal of the ASA.

In 1989, he established The Azalea Works, an educational and research activity to focus his interests on research, lecturing, writing, consulting, and the development of improved azalea cultivars. He has introduced three azalea cultivars, 'Seattle White', 'Landon Pride', and 'Brookside Delight'. He has written and published two books (*The Bell Book*, 1994 and *The Glenn Dale Azaleas Revised*, 1996), a section in a book published by the U.S. National Arboretum (*The National Arboretum Book of Outstanding Garden Plants*, 1990), has published more than 40 articles about azaleas, and is a licensed and certified pesticide consultant in the state of Maryland.

Be sure to attend this meeting, you will find Bill's discussion very interesting and there should be a good exchange of information.

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.* ☺

From the Pres *Barry Sperling*

UNSOLVED MYSTERIES

Unsolved mysteries are the most interesting. (Is the phrase itself repetitious?) I've enjoyed the unsolved mystery of chess. Nobody knows the best way to play. The weather is a major hobby of mine. Despite the remarkably accurate forecast of the track of Hurricane Isabel, many 1- or 2-day forecasts are still way off. The stock market is always interesting and exciting (no, don't ask...). Computer programming moved from a hobby to a profession. It is so complex that no one can write a major, bug-free program. And yet, all of the above, despite their obvious frustrations in being somewhat beyond our intellectual abilities, provide excitement as we work hard to understand them and, occasionally, an insight gives us a glimpse of the truth.

While the overpowering flood of color of azaleas in the spring is a major reason for our pleasure with them, I, and others have that feeling of being surrounded by unsolved mysteries. Why are some spring displays better than others? Is it the weather? (I'm pretty sure it's not the stock market!) We just had a very wet and cloudy year (September to

(Continued on page 2)

October 5th
at the George
Masson
Branch
Library
1:30 P.M.
EDT

October 2003

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	

REFRESHMENT DUTY —

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



A through J

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

September) that followed several years of drought. What will this foretell for the spring? Will the rain-inspired growth of this year produce a lot of flowers, or will the dreary cloudiness inhibit flower formation? A late attack of lace bugs, which I've never had after the spring, could do some damage. But it might not. Has anybody noticed any patterns in the rain and cloudiness influencing the flowers? Of course, we have yet to see what the winter and early spring cold snaps have in store. More unsolved mysteries. But those are the most exciting! I can't wait to find out what happens next...

Barry Sperling, President

Treasurer's Report - Best Laid Plans

Several months ago I reported at one of our meetings about my efforts to save us some \$\$\$\$ by shifting some money from our checking account to our CD. I didn't know there was a \$2,000 (then) minimum balance requirement to avoid a \$12 monthly service charge for our checking account. After much effort, I reversed the transaction, got all the service charges reversed, when Bank of America raised the minimum no fee balance to \$3,000. I have once again moved money, got fees reversed, and

am reporting our balance while it still is stable... What a PIA (Pain in Armpit)!!! We are making minimal interest in the CD so my strategy is to renew for the shortest time frame until the rates begin to move up.

September 25, 2003 - checking - \$3,332, CD (at a .80% 90 day rate) - \$7,369.

Respectively submitted
Dave Nanney
Treasurer, No. Va. ASA

THANKS TO THE RADEN'S

Those who attended the last Chapter meeting on August 24 enjoyed a delightful time at Dave and Sharon Raden's home for our annual plant auction. The weather was perfect and we had plenty of plants for the auction. We express sincere gratitude to the Raden's for their hospitality.

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING—
NOVEMBER 9 2003
"DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY"
WALTER PRZYPEK

Directions to George Mason Branch Library

The George Mason Branch Library is located at **7001 Little River Turnpike (Route 236)** in Annandale, VA. It is in the south side of Little River Turnpike at the intersection of **Hillbrook Dr.** to the south and **Evergreen La.** to the north— between the **Capitol Beltway, I-495**, and the **Shirley Highway, I-395**.

- **From the Beltway I-495:** go east on Route 236 about **1.70 miles** to Hillbrook; the library is on the **right** at this corner.
- **From Shirley Hwy. I-395:** go west about **2.75 miles** to Hillbrook. Turn **left** to the library on the corner.

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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Next Chapter Meeting -
October 5th, 1:30 PM DST
"Glenn Dales, Glenn Dale, and other
Azaleas Issues", Bill Miller