

# The Azalea Clipper

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Northern Virginia Chapter Azalea Society of America



NEXT CHAPTER MEETING:  
NOV 11 1:30 - 5:00

The McDonald Hybrids

HOLIDAY PARTY:  
DECEMBER 2 1:00 - 5:00

At the Randall's in Spotsylvania



President **Rick Bauer** will speak on the hybrids of **Sandra McDonald** on Nov. 11. Above he's starting out the October auction while **Lars Larson** (r) waits to announce the winners of the silent auction and **Bob Harrison** (c) prepares to entertain us with his professional level auctioneering.

One of the most popular **McDonald** hybrids is the very large flowered **Venus Baby**. Photo courtesy of **Don Hyatt**.

Did you know **Sandra McDonald** wrote a 3 page article about her hybrids in the 1998 #3 **Azalean**?

## *Legacy Project: Sandra McDonald Azaleas 11 November* **Rick Bauer**

The Northern Virginia Chapter has started the Legacy Project to maintain information on and expand the availability to the general public of cultivars developed by our chapter members and other local hybridizers. November's meeting will highlight the **Sandra McDonald** hybrids. **Jack Fowler** and I had the pleasure of meeting with **Sandra** and her husband **Ken** at their home in Hampton, VA in August to gather information on her hybrids as well as take cuttings for propagation.

**Sandra** has an extensive horticulture background and started in the business working at **Ken's** family nursery, Le-Mac in the 70's. Her initial goals included improving the **hardiness** of floral azaleas and to grow more **compact** plants for use in small yards. Over the years, Sandra developed over 40 varieties of azaleas. We will be highlighting a number of her azaleas during the presentation on 11 November.

As part of the **Legacy Project**, we will be including more of the **Sandra McDonald** varieties in our future plant sales and auctions. We hope you can join us on the 11th.



Sandra and Ken McDonald



Sweet Freckles, (McDonald hybrid)



A85-11-1-MargaretDouglasxHotShot-01-800  
(McDonald Hybrid)



Jane Newman, Eve Harrison, Frances Louer and  
others examine fixed price plants



Auction attendees listen to instructions



Frances Louer being recognized with the Frances  
Louer Azalea (Bob Stewart Hybrid)

## **President's Message**

Rick Bauer

I'm writing this message after an incredibly successful 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Azalea Auction. We had an amazing collection of high quality plants, which participants were able to obtain for reasonable prices. I think all who attended enjoyed themselves. More information on the auction is in a separate article in this Clipper, however I'd like to thank all who contributed plants as well as the many members who pitched in to organize and conduct the auction. We could not have had such a successful event without you.

November's presentation is on the **Sandra McDonald Azaleas**. While we have had presentations on chapter hybridizers in the past, we are now starting this as a part of the Legacy Project. The goal of this project is to maintain the knowledge of azalea hybridizers and their plants and to maintain true specimens of their cultivars. To that end, we'll be putting together presentations on the hybridizers, acquiring and propagating their cultivars to highlight at our plant sales and auctions, and will maintain libraries of information on various aspects of their work (e.g., plant lists, parentage etc.). There are many aspects to this project, but they all require volunteers. If you would like to get involved, get with me or with **Carolyn Beck**.

Because our November meeting and December Holiday Social are closely spaced this year, we will be having only one Clipper to cover both activities. I hope all of you can join us at **Barbara and Roger Randall's** house outside of Fredericksburg for our social and annual meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December. We'll be covering next year's schedule, approve the budget (included in this Clipper), elect officers, and will make decisions on end of year contributions to other organizations. We hope to see a large turnout.

Finally, I'd like to thank all of the chapter members who have contributed so much during the past year. I am truly grateful for all of your efforts. As I've said many times before, we couldn't offer the programs we do without your help and support. I think we have a strong chapter and I enjoy interacting and working with each of you. Thank you.



## **Chapter Officers for 2013**

The following members are running for Chapter Officers for 2013. Elections will be held at the 2 December meeting.

**President – Rick Bauer**

**Vice President – Lars Larson**

**Treasurer – Paul Beck**

**Secretary – open**

We need a volunteer to serve as Secretary for next year. The primary duty of the Secretary is to prepare and publish the minutes of each chapter and executive committee meeting. If you would like more information or are interested in contributing to the chapter by serving as secretary, please contact **Rick Bauer** or **Carolyn Beck**.

## November 11 Chapter Meeting

**When:** 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm  
**Where:** Vienna Community Center  
**Topic:** The Sandra McDonald Hybrids, by Rick Bauer  
**Plus:** Plant Exchange

### Refreshment duty – A- K

We will start with our social time, followed by a great presentation on the McDonald hybrids, and then the plant exchange.

Please bring a few of your favorite plants to share if you would like to participate in the plant exchange. Along with each plant, please provide a description and your name so the recipient can get back with you with any questions. Pictures are always beneficial. Pots should be clean and the soil only damp. We will be doing our own cleanup, so minimizing mess will be helpful.

### Directions to Vienna Community Center

120 Cherry Street, SE  
Vienna, Virginia 22180  
(703) 255-6360

Take Route 66 to exit 62 (VA 243/Nutley Street) heading north for 1.5 miles.  
Turn right on Courthouse Rd for 0.6 miles  
Slight right onto Locust St (after Plum and Cherry St SW, which is not a through street) for 0.2 miles  
Turn right onto Center St South for 0.1 miles  
Take the first left onto Cherry St SE. The community center parking area is straight ahead at the end of the road.

**Note:** Cherry Street SE does not go straight through from Center Street to Park Street. Traveling a short distance on Mill Street will get you from the west segment to the east if you need to head that direction.

## December 2 Holiday Social/Annual Meeting

**When:** 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
**Where:** Home of Barbara and Roger  
**What to Bring:** A dish to share  
**Plus:** Gift Exchange

**Please RSVP to Carolyn Beck** and let her know what you would like to contribute to the meal so we have a balance of main dishes, side dishes, and desserts. Beverages will be provided.

**Gift Exchange** - If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped item, appropriate for either a woman or a man, of a value up to \$20.00.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Azalea Auction

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Azalea Auction was held on 14 October at the Merrifield Garden Center in Gainesville. This auction was the most successful to date due in large part to the high number of quality plants available in the Silent and Live Auctions as well as fixed price sales. An additional feature this year was the auctioning of naming rights for three of **Bob Stewart's** hybrids. The lucky winners of these rights were **Rick Bauer, Dave and Leslie Nanney and Joe Gutierrez. Frances Louer and Jane Newman** were also recognized by each having a **Bob Stewart** azalea named in their honor. We were fortunate to have **Bob and Eve Harrison** join us from Wingate, NC. As in past years, **Bob** did an excellent job as our auctioneer.

We'd like to thank the following people for their hard work in planning and executing the auction: **Carolyn and Paul Beck, Dave and Patsy Meadows, Rick Bauer, Barbara Bullock, Sam Burd, Paul Davis, Marvin Friedman, Patty Gabaldoni, Lars Larson, Lee and Carole McElvain, Dan Krabill, Barry Sperling, and Margaret Vogel.**

Finally we'd like to thank **Transplant Nursery, White's Nursery, Larry Martin, Bob Stewart, Dan Krabill, David and Patsy Meadows and Paul and Carolyn Beck** for donating the excellent quality plants.

## Directions to Barbara and Roger Randall's

Take I-95 South towards Fredricksburg

Take the US-1/US-17 S exit, EXIT 126, toward Spotsylvania. 0.4 mi

Turn right onto Jefferson Davis Hwy/US-1 S/US-17 S. Continue to follow US-1 S. 1.1 mi

Turn slight right onto Spotsylvania Pky. 0.4 mi

Turn right onto Balls Bluff Rd. 0.2 mi

Turn right onto Big Bethel Rd. 0.1 mi

Turn right onto Sewells Pointe Way. 0.2 mi

5003 SEWELLS POINTE WAY is on the left.

**Barbara Bullock** from the National Arboretum sends along this information which has been edited to fit available space. Contact her for more details:

"This is to announce our **2nd annual late fall to early winter cleanup day** in the Azalea Collections scheduled this year for **Saturday December 1, 2012**. We will begin at 10am and work 'til 2 or 3 pm. In the event of rain, sadly we will have to cancel. If we cancel, our front desk receptionist will be notified by 8:30am, so that if you are wondering, call **202-245-4523** before leaving home. **Bring your lunch** and we will have lunch in the garden like we did in April. Prior to start of work, **everyone will need to fill out a "One Day Work Form"** for the Arboretum to be able to cover you in the event of injury. I will have all tools, rakes, or shovels needed for the various jobs, but would like to ask you to **bring your own gloves and water** in plastic bottles. Tasks will mostly have to do with dealing with our large volume of leaves, particularly with taking them out of the small azaleas and raking." If you are interested in participating or for more information, contact Barbara

