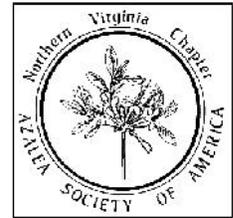


The Azalea Clipper

Volume 32 Issue 2 July 2011

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Northern Virginia Chapter Azalea Society of America



NEXT
CHAPTER MEETING:

JULY 10 1:30

**CUTTING EXCHANGE
AT KAY JACKSON'S**

Directions on p. 6

REFRESHMENT DUTY –
Everyone: Please bring a
dish to share, AND
folding chairs. Beverages
will be provided.



Larry Martin is a recognized expert in growing cuttings and getting them ready for sale.

From the President

It's hard to believe that it has been three months since the last Clipper. Those months have been pretty busy for the Chapter. I thoroughly enjoyed Karen Rexrode's presentation at our March meeting and am rethinking my garden design (symmetry isn't all it's cracked up to be)! In April we had the opportunity to visit a number of beautiful gardens in the Charlottesville area and were treated to the gracious hospitality of our hosts. I think everyone enjoyed themselves and we're looking to make an annual garden trip part of our recurring program. The end of April, a number of us made the trip to Evansville, Indiana for the ASA convention. I know many of us didn't know what to expect...but we saw some outstanding gardens, especially those in the Vincennes area. In May we moved our plant sale from Blandy Arboretum to Green Springs Garden in Alexandria. I was proud of the quality of plants we made available to the public and the sale was very successful. We are now coming up on our annual cutting exchange. This is always a hit with our

members and we appreciate Kay Jackson hosting the exchange.

One of the concerns of ASA and many other plant societies is gaining and retaining members. Gaining members is achieved by making the public aware of the organization and piquing their interest. Retaining members is done by continuing to provide programs and opportunities which are of value to the membership. The Northern Virginia Chapter is a fairly robust chapter; however we're always striving to grow and to provide more and better programs for our members. We'd like to offer activities which are of the most interest to our members. If you have any suggestions, complaints or kudos, please contact me or any of the chapter officers.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at Kay's house on 10 July for our annual cutting exchange.

Rick



Top Left: Azalea Path, ASA Convention Top Right: Greenspring Plant Sale Bottom: Charlottesville

*Check out my Picasa page of club photos from the past, 51 pictures updated through 2006:
<https://picasaweb.google.com/bsperlin/AzaleaMeetings2001>*

Changing email, home address, phone?? Please let me know.

Carolyn suggests bringing a recipe with your dish!

Cuttings Wanted! Can You Help?

Carolyn Beck would like:

Satsukis: Ai-no-Sasayaki, Akitashibori, Gakurei, Gyokuren, Homare-no-Hana, Kimka, Koshi-no-Homare, Kyokomachi, Mito-no-Hana, Miyakodori, Miyako-no-Hana, Naka-no-Tuski, Namichidori, Ogi, Pink Lady, Reishi, Sakigake, Sakuramusume, Sekai-no-Homare, Sejuniru-no-Sai (double blossom), Senju-no-Izumi, Tenko, Yaegoromo, Yamabiko, Yayoi-no-Tsuki. Kurume: Yoshi Migatake

Dave and Patsy Meadows have a list that's too long for this space, but it starts out:

A101-Kur, Bee Gee Red, Blackburn, Butterfly, Capella, Crimson Crest, Delicatissima, Fire Fly, Frank Aresn, Garth Relay, Gourges, Hampton Beauty, Hardy Fire Fly, Hersheys Pink, Isabelle, Isolde, Kintiayo, Kisses, Little Cherub, Little Fella, Little Sweetie Pie, Louise Gable, Lucinda, Mother of Pearl, Nakahira, Nannie Angella, Ogikasane, Oopalulu, Orange Cup, Osaraku, Peach Glow, Pink Elf, Pink Petals, Pluckens-Robin Hill, Nursery, Polar Bear, Princess Allison, Princess Connie, Quackeness, Sambo, Shelley, Sizzling Red, Snow Mound, Soft Touch, Ukihasi, Vibrant, Virginia Duchess, Wedding Day

Joe Coleman, coming up from Georgia just for the cuttings(!):

Kermesina, Beltsville Dwarf: Flower Girl, Leprechaun, Pequeno, Purple Cushin, Brown Eyes, White Elf, Rose Elf, Dainty Rose and Kiusianum selections

Charlottesville Area Garden Visit April 13-14 by Mary Hoioos

This Garden tour was arranged by Fran Boninti and coordinated by our VP Carolyn Beck - what amazing variation and vistas we saw.

Tues evening we had a rainstorm but by Wed. morning we started our day with sunshine. Our first garden was the ingenious design of the Gillenwaters. This land was the original home site of Meriwether Lewis. It is a wooded garden with vistas of the mountains. It is a garden with rock sculpture water features. We saw azaleas (a few in boom), bulbs perennials and Japanese Maples. A greenhouse was available for purchasing plants. We moved from there to "Whispering Pines". This is a lowland garden with tall trees and trails leading to a multitude of azaleas, bulbs and perennials of all varieties and water features. This was a lunch stop which Bernie and Carol Tautkus hosted. A tour of their gardens and a rest on their deck refreshed us ready for our next adventure.

We traveled to Cole Burrell's garden which is on a

ridge. We forded the creek and climbed the partially washed out road. (Remember that rainstorm from the night before). This was a garden with all color and shapes and of perennial like bluebells, hellebore, and phlox all resting under tall trees with emphasis put on natural relationships. We rested on a deck with refreshments again & watched our gang explore the trails with our host. Our next stop was the Eades small garden near Fran & Andy's house.

We then joined the Boninti's at their home with gardens surrounding the whole house. We were served a delicious supper inside (there was getting to be a chill in the air). Ian Robertson gave a slide program on various gardens and how they repeat themselves over the years.

We were a tired group but ready next morning to visit "Wilton Gardens". A huge garden of woodies, grasses, 300 varieties of Japanese Maples and many shapes and color to enjoy.

Each garden had its uniqueness and charm and we all enjoyed the gardens, our hosts, and each other.

Taking Cuttings *(copied from the 7/10 Clipper)*

Select cuttings from new growth found at the terminal branch ends (avoid branches that have produced "sport" blossoms uncharacteristic of the named variety). Collect cuttings after the leaves are fully mature, but before they turn woody. The parent plants must be in good health. A good time to take the cuttings is in the early morning. If drought conditions are present, water the plants well the evening before. Select stems of medium diameter rather than thin weak wood. Place cuttings (4 to 6) from each plant in a separate plastic bag (identified by the parent variety) along with a few drops of water, and seal it to retain 100% humidity inside. Print the name of the plant variety on the outside of the bag, along with a short description of the plant. Avoid overheating of cuttings from direct sunlight. Cuttings should be stuck in the rooting medium as soon as possible after taking the cuttings, but they can be stored in a closed container in the refrigerator for up to a week. {At the meeting ask our experts about growing cuttings!}

Green Spring Gardens Plant Sale May 14th **by Lee McElvain**

We had a great time selling azaleas at the Green Spring Gardens Plant Sale in early May. Everyone expected a rainy day, but it turned out to be pleasantly cool and overcast – a perfect day for the azaleas ...and for our great crew! Care had been taken to have the azaleas peak on the day of the sale – and we have “Mother Nature” and Carolyn and Paul Beck, as well as our contributors -- Bob Stewart, Larry Martin and Joe Klimavicz -- for making this happen.

Our purposes were to acquaint customers with the Azalea Society and our chapter, to encourage them

to use azaleas in their landscape plans, and, of course, to make some bucks for the chapter. To accomplish our objectives, Carolyn and Paul worked tirelessly to prepare for the sale and to insure that it was conducted with ease and efficiency. In addition, we had knowledgeable helpers to answer questions and help our customers make their selections. Rick Bauer, Dan Krabill, Barry Sperling, Sharon Raden, Rod and Mary Hoioos, and Dave and Patsy Meadows all helped make this event successful and fun.

In the end, we sold about 100 plants, many of them Marshy Point, and it was extremely successful (we'll most likely get the final tally at the next meeting), but best of all events like this help to bring all of us closer together as a team and allow us to get to know each other a little better – one of the perks of helping out! Thanks, everyone.

If you would like to receive the clipper via email, saving the club printing and postage, and are not already doing so, please send me a note at: bsperling@cox.net

Contact Dave Nanney if you'd like to borrow a book from the club library.

Did you know that we're alive in cyberspace? Check us out at: www.nv-asa.org

Harold Belcher, has been one of the most active people involved with saving the National Arboretum's azaleas. The following is a short synopsis your editor made of detailed notes Harold took at the June 8th Stakeholders meeting:

Friends of National Arboretum (FONA) Sponsored Stakeholder's Meeting to Provide an Update on Funding for the FONA "Save the Azaleas" Campaign,

In mid-May, the Friends of the National Arboretum (FONA) invited the Stakeholders of the National Arboretum to attend a meeting to update them on the status of funding of the FONA "Save the Azaleas" Campaign and to have the Stakeholders update FONA on their efforts under the Campaign. The Stakeholders were later advised that at the conclusion of the FONA sponsored meeting, Dr. Collein Hefferan, Director, U.S. National Arboretum would address the Stakeholders and would be available to answer questions. The ARS and the ASA were among the representatives.

Congressional funding bills have included language encouraging the NA to maintain the collections that they earlier sought to destroy, but provided the NA with no funding for that.

FONA reported on the retail portion of their campaign. To date, FONA has raised about \$40,000 mostly through small donations. The FONA Board agreed to bear the expenses of the campaign and has funded \$17,000 of those expenses. So far \$12,000 has been expended for publications, handouts, web design, postage and delivery of literature. No fundraising expenses have come out of the funds donated to the Campaign. The \$1,000,000.00 endowment has produced income of approximately \$28,000.

Dr. Hefferan joined us and spent about an hour answering questions, outlining some of the Arboretum's current and future projects and providing an insight into their efforts to care for and support their Collections. She thanked us for coming and thanked FONA for organizing. She informed us that the Arboretum is not going to de-accession the undocumented azaleas on the Glen Dale Hillside or the Boxwood and Perennial Collections and is working to maintain its collections for as long as possible.

An ASA representative mentioned that the ASA, ARS members and the Curator of the Azalea Collections could probably identify the undocumented Glen Dale azaleas given the opportunity. Dr. Hefferan indicated that it may not be necessary to name them (the undocumented Glen Dale azaleas) in order to appreciate and maintain them.

At the conclusion of the Meeting, the Stakeholders expressed a sense that things at the Arboretum seem to be moving in the right direction. I felt that Dr. Hefferan is genuinely interested in working with the Stakeholders to solve some of the Arboretum's problems and will involve the Stakeholders in the Arboretum's decision making process concerning the resolution of those problems.

Note:

For the second time in a row I've left out tons of information in the above, so to fill in the gaps see **Steve Henning's** site: <http://savetheazaleas.org>

Dave Nanney is handling the library. Here are a few of the books he can bring to the meeting on request:

Compendium of Rhododendron and Azalea Diseases co-edited by Duane L. Coyer and Martha M. Roane
Azaleas by Fred C. Galle

Azaleas (Revised and Enlarged Edit.) by Fred C. Galle

The Azalea Book by Frederic P. Lee

The Glen Dale Azaleas by B.Y. Morrison U.S.D.A. Agriculture Monograph No. 20

The Azalean The Journal of the Azalea Society of America, Inc.

Loose leaf bound copy of all the current and past issues of the Journal.

Greer's Guidebook To Available Rhododendrons, Species and Hybrids by Harold E. Greer

How To Identify Rhododendron and Azalea Problems Wash. State Univ., 1984

Pocket Satsuki Dictionary

New Satsuki Dictionary

Satsuki–Living Guide Deluxe

Expert Opinion Satsuki Dictionary, Three Volume Set

Satsuki Index

Growing Azaleas Commercially edited by Anton M. Kofranek and Roy A. Larson

Rhododendrons And Azaleas by Judith Berrisford

Rhododendrons And Azaleas by Mervyn Kessell Mostly English/Scottish oriented

Rhododendrons And Azaleas For Your Garden by Christopher Fairweather

Getting Started With Rhododendrons and Azaleas by J. Harold Clarke

Great American Azaleas by Jim Darden

Hybrids And Hybridizers edited by Philip A. Livingston and Franklin H. West

President: Rick Bauer

Vice President: Carolyn Beck

Secretary: Mary Hoios

Treasurer: Paul Beck

**Corresponding Secretary and Clipper Editor:
Barry Sperling**

September 11 Plant Auction

October 8 - 10 Hooper Bald Project

October 30 Fall Meeting

December 4 Social

July 10th at 1:30: Cutting Exchange and Picnic at Kay Jackson's

165 Canterbury Dr. Stafford, VA 22554

Take **I-95** to **Stafford Exit 140**. Going south turn left, or if going north turn right.

At the first light turn right onto Courthouse Rd. Cross over Jefferson Davis Rd. and continue straight.

Go about 9 miles until you reach a **T-intersection**. Turn **right** on Andrew Chapel Rd.

You will come to an **old bridge**. Go **under** it and veer to the **left**, which is Brooke Rd.

Continue about **4 miles** until Brooke Rd. ends. Turn **right** on Canterbury Dr. Go **1/2 mile** to the **driveway straight ahead**, through an opening in a chain link fence. Two mailboxes are on your left.