

# The Azalea Clipper

Volume 34 Issue 4 November 2013

Published 1980-2010 by Frances and Phil Louer

Northern Virginia Chapter Azalea Society of America



## *The Garden In Winter*

**George McLellan**

*AND Plant Exchange!!*

**November 17 1:30 – 4:30**

George Mason Regional Library, Annandale  
Refreshments: **L – Z**; Directions on P. 5

While we are focused on the azaleas of spring, extending the blooming season is a shared interest. A shady yard, which is a necessity for our azaleas and rhododendrons, also tends to limit our options for other times of the year unless we are lucky enough to have some sunny areas, too. But then, the late fall, winter and early spring are quiet times for everyone, shade and sun gardeners, alike. However, as you know there are still options for those periods. Our fall speaker, landscape designer **George McLellan**, will provide these options for “The Garden in Winter”.



**George McLellan** on Hooper Bald with a *R. Calendulaceum*, one of the reddest of that species.  
Photo courtesy **Don Hyatt**.

If you have toured the display gardens at **Brent and Becky’s Bulbs** in Gloucester, VA, then you know why George is a sought-after designer with an eye for color. An expert in native azaleas, he chaired the Species Study Group of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society which led the way for rescuing and reestablishing native azalea populations on Gregory Bald and other locations in the Blue Ridge and Smoky Mountains of North Carolina. He is a recipient of the Silver Medal from the American Rhododendron Society.

George is an expert photographer as well as a birder who will share horticultural knowledge along the way. George knows the world of gardening including native plants, trees, bulbs, perennials, the uncommon, the unique and newest hybrids.

**Paul Beck** has worked hard to create, single-handedly, a professional quality website for our chapter with lots of information, including the membership directory. Check it out at

<http://www.nv-asa.org>

{note the hyphen, not an underscore}





Captions Next Page



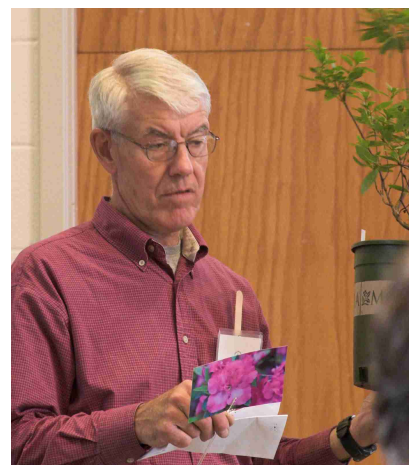
## *President's Message*

*Rick Bauer*

As we approach the end of the year, I look back with satisfaction on a very successful year for our chapter. Through the hard work of our members, we had interesting programs, expanded outreach with sister horticulture societies for our mutual benefit, continued to increase our visibility with the public and were very successful in our fund raising efforts. Through our "Legacy Project," we're expanding knowledge of chapter and ASA hybridizers and their cultivars as well as introducing them to the wider public through our sales and auctions. We took advantage of the opportunity to expand outside of the Northern Virginia area when we visited member gardens in the Richmond area. We have also joined with three chapters of the American Rhododendron Society to plan and host the 2016 convention in Williamsburg. Work is already well underway in the planning process.

This month we are fortunate to have chapter member George McLellan speak to us on the *Winter Garden*. While we all love azaleas, most of us like to have companion plants to add additional interest to the garden, especially during

periods when the azaleas are not in bloom. I saw George's presentation last February in Newport News and thoroughly enjoyed it. I used his information on my North Carolina plant shopping trip and look forward to enjoying a more colorful garden this winter. Finally, after serving as your Vice President for four years and your President for the past three years, I'm turning over the reins. I have thoroughly enjoyed performing these roles, however I think it is good to get new blood into an organization. I will continue to be active in the chapter as Past President and will take a greater role in Membership and the Legacy Project. I will also be deeply involved in the planning of the 2016 convention. Additionally, I will be joining the list of chapter members who are also working at the national level. I hope that you continue to give the new leadership the support which you have given me. I wish you and your families a happy holiday season.



*P. 2 Captions*

**Top: Oct. 12 Scene, left-center: Auctioneer Paul Davis, right-center: Rick Bauer and Paul Beck keeping track, bottom: entrance hall with some fixed price plants, bottom-right: Carolyn Beck and Lars Larson**

*This page*

**Plant presenters: David Meadows, Dick Cecka, Lars Larson**

## 2013 Azalea Auction and Sale

The Chapter held its **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Azalea Sale and Auction** on 12 October at the **Kirkwood Presbyterian Church** in Springfield, VA. The event included an online pre-sale for chapter members which provided our members first choice on an excellent selection of plants. Unfortunately, **Mother Nature** did not cooperate fully on the day of the auction. Due to inclement weather, we were forced to move the fixed price plant sale into the church, rather than the front lawn where it would have been more visible to the public. That, coupled with the weather, probably contributed to a lower level of event day sales than we had hoped. The Silent and Live Auctions afforded the attendees the opportunity to acquire mature, healthy, plants at bargain prices. Hopefully, most people went away satisfied with their new azalea acquisitions. The overall sale/auction was extremely successful for the chapter.

**Right**

**Jack Fowler, Ajit Thakur, Larry Martin**



**Left**

**Rick Bauer, Sam Burd,  
Paul Beck Ginger Burd,  
Ajit Thakur**

In addition to the sale, the chapter acquired two new members, **Michael Cassidy** from **Alexandria** and **Ajit Thakur** from **Springfield**. We are happy to welcome both of them to the chapter.

The auction would not have been a success without the hard work of a number of chapter members. We'd like to thank **Paul** and **Carolyn Beck** for many things, but particularly **Paul's** work in developing the website to support the sale and for **Carolyn's** considerable work in propagating, raising and keeping track of plant inventory. Thanks to **Paul Davis** for being our auctioneer. **Patsy Meadows** and **Pati Gabaldoni** did an excellent job of providing refreshments. Those members and a number of other people performed various roles in setting up, tearing down and conducting the auction. We'd like to thank **Rick Bauer, Sam and Ginger Burd, Dick Cecka, Jack Fowler, Lars Larson, Larry Martin, Lee McElvain, David Meadows, Dave and Leslie Nanney and Barry Sperling**. Finally, we'd like to thank **Lars** and the **Kirkwood Presbyterian Church** for allowing us to use their beautiful facility.

## *The Legacy Project*

Focusing on our local hybridizers, Dave Nanney had a nice writeup on Pete Vines and his plants in the July 2013 issue and your editor did some paraphrasing of Joe Klimavicz's notes and plants in the October 2012 issue. Could some of our readers provide similar (or better) writeups on others such as Bob Stewart, George Ring or Don Hyatt??

## **Directions to George Mason Regional Library**

7001 Little River Turnpike (Rt. 236), Annandale

**From the Beltway (I-495)**: go east on Rt. 236 for 1.7 miles to a light at Hillbrook. The Library is on your right. Make a right onto Hillbrook and a right into the parking lot.

**From I-395**: go west on Rt. 236 about 2.75 miles to a light at Hillbrook. Turn left onto Hillbrook and then right into the parking lot of the library.

## *Suggestions For 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 if there are any questions. Pictures are always beneficial. Pots should be clean and the soil only damp.

## *Websites*

Chapter: [www.nv-asa.org](http://www.nv-asa.org)

National ASA: [www.azaleas.org](http://www.azaleas.org)

**2013**

**November 17** Meeting with speaker

**December 8** Holiday Social

**David Meadows** has pointed out that his phone number has been published incorrectly at times. It is: **540-349-0120**

**President: Rick Bauer** 757-833-7737  
rickbauer@cox.net

**Vice President: Lars Larson** 703-277-3441  
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**Corresponding Secretary and Clipper Editor:**  
**Barry Sperling** 703-765-7062  
bsperling@cox.net

**Ask to receive the Clipper via email pdf rather than paper snail mail and it saves the club \$10/yr!! (AND ... the pictures in the pdf look BETTER than on paper, are all in color and can be enlarged!)**