

MID-ATLANTIC RHODODENDRON NEWS AND NOTES

A Publication of the Middle Atlantic Chapter of the American
Rhododendron Society

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February 2023

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING MEETINGS

Joint ARS/ASA Conference
MAC-PVC Joint Meeting

April 19-23, 2023 Atlanta, GA
May 19-21, 2023 Shrine Mont Retreat, Orkney Springs,
VA

American Rhododendron Society
MAC Website (UPDATED REGULARLY)
UVA Special Collections
Old Quarterly Bulletins & JARS
Rhododendron Blog

<http://www.rhododendron.org/>
<http://www.macars.org/wordpress/>
<http://www.lib.virginia.edu/small/>
<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/JARS/>
www.rhododendron.org/blog/

MAC SPRING MEETING by Theresa Brents

The Middle Atlantic and Potomac Valley Chapters of the American Rhododendron Society will hold their joint Spring Meeting the weekend of May 19 through May 21, 2023 at Shrine Mont Camp and Conference Center in Orkney Springs, Virginia. Our room rates will be \$150 per night for single occupancy and \$220 per night for double occupancy. The room rate includes all state, meals, and room taxes, as well as breakfast, lunch, and dinner each day. We have great speakers, Doug Jolley, Friday night, and John and Sally Perkins, Saturday night, and will be visiting three gardens on Saturday.



Saturday's garden tours will feature MAC member Hubert and his late wife Mary Barb's garden. Hubert's garden has over 400 rhododendrons and azaleas and many other unique trees and plants. We will also visit another small rhododendron garden and a wonderful wildflower garden.

Registration Forms will be sent out around the middle of February this year. This is much earlier than usual since Shrine Mont requires our final count by March 19.

**LOOK FOR YOUR REGISTRATION
INFORMATION AND REGISTER EARLY.**

IN THE CROZET GARDEN by Lloyd Willis

It is January 26, 2023, as I sit down to write this article. It is another 42 °F day with full sunshine. I am ready to go work outside except there has been eleven plus mph wind on and off all day. There are still enough limbs to fall to make it dangerous outside. There have been additional diseased ash trees removed from the property since I last wrote. The tree company also continues to add to our pile of tree limbs and trunks that will be cut into firewood this summer by one of the sons-in-law. I did a rough count of limbs and trunks at forty—each one longer than eight feet.



When I do go out, what beauty can I find in the garden? There are multiple dark green rhodos that have very nice flower bud set.. There are azaleas with small purple leaves and red flower buds. There are boxwoods without a single dead leaf on the plants. Most of the Japanese maples look just fine without a single leaf on them. One Japanese maple looks like it still has thousands of its leaves still on the tree. Those leaves are clearly dead but are a very pretty light brown color. There is a project underway that will be beautiful to me when finished. That is the mulching of the seven terraces in our front yard. Parts of three have been done and

I am sure I will find much beauty and joy when all seven are done.

On the last two days before my Virginia Tech helper went back to college, we redid one of the two plant islands in our driveway. All the ground cover in that bed was removed on a Monday morning. On Tuesday morning we added ten one gallon sized plants to that bed. Then we added three garden cart loads of mulch. My helper with a big smile on his face said, "I have worked for you three years and this bed is the biggest change we have done to date." He was happy, I was happy, Mrs. Willis (Margaret) continued to be patient.

So where is the humor in this article? Several years ago a friend and his wife were given a tour of our garden. He said that he liked the garden but it was missing man-made ornamental items. He wanted extra things to add interest—sundials, bronze animals, other metal works of art. We have good news for him because Margaret and I now have a metal item of unique ornamental design in our garden. We can see it quite well from the second floor guest bedroom window as well as when we tour the garden. It has been there for three months and we view it with wonder. We wonder when it will finally be moved. It is a huge crane truck owned by our tree company. They assure us it will be moved as soon as there are three or so days of freezing weather so it can be moved without sinking further into the yard. We wonder.

WINDBEAM WAY WANDERINGS, FEBRUARY 2023 article and photos by Doug Jolley

As February begins, Mollis Witch hazels, Winter Aconite and Snowdrops are in full bloom. Our *Cornus officianalis* is all but in full bloom. Without snowfall, evening garden walks lack that winter wonderland mystique. None the less, one can always anticipate



favorite plants come spring and summer. One favorite for years now has been the *Rhododendron. minus* that General Porter brought to one of the MAC auctions. Always a prolific bloomer it is now dappled white with snow. Clusters of buds given a few months'



R. minus plant from General Porter with snow in February.



R. minus plant from General Porter with flowers in May.



R. catawbiense album and brown creeper on the tree.

time will erase memories of winter. Some elepidote rhododendron buds can seek shelter beneath adjacent leaves!



Deer with *R. catawbiense album*.



Cardinal on deciduous holly.

Winter months present an opportunity to concentrate on garden creatures whether it be bird life or animals. Mature rhododendrons make the perfect back drop for our resident deer and visiting birds. As long as our deer herd abides by our mutually agreed upon non-aggression pact, they are welcome. With regards to the resident nine deer, this year's fawns have names. Well, if the young ones are



R. calendulaceum seedling blooming in May .



R. calendulaceum seedling blooming in May.

named, guess who is treated to snacks on frigid winter evenings ?

Many of our plantings are geared to species that provide seasonal food sources. One very chilly morning I chanced upon a group of cardinals feasting upon both American holly and deciduous holly. Both holly types are attractive in fruit, great



Cardinal on an American holly.

for indoor arrangements, and seemingly pest and disease free.

All my last group of flame azalea seedlings sown five years ago are ready to bloom this spring. A few precocious plants bloomed last May and what will the remainder present this spring?

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

John Kaylor, Sykesville, MD
Cody and Jennifer Barb, Edinburg, VA

ZOOM LECTURE BY DR. RALF BAUER

MAC members were invited by the Potomac Valley Chapter to attend a Zoom lecture by Dr. Ralf Bauer on Jan. 29. The Zoom meeting was expanded to include the



Dr. Ralf Bauer

Valley Forge Chapter and a shorter talk by Tara Spears at the Jenkins Arboretum. The Valley Forge Chapter

had a meeting at the Arboretum in conjunction with the Zoom presentation. Both talks were very well attended with the shorter talk by Tara Spears following Ralf Bauer's one hour talk.

Ralf Bauer of Offenburg, Germany, gave an excellent presentation about the *R. minus complex*, which includes *R. carolinianum*, *R. minus*, *R. chapmanii*, and *R. smokianum*, a new species he described in 2019. He has been making trips to study the native azaleas in Florida and Alabama and other southeastern states for several years now and may well be a new Dr. Henry Skinner who also traveled the Southeastern U.S to study the rhododendrons.

This was the second year that Dr. Bauer had given a Zoom talk for some of the ARS chapters. The previous one concentrated on the native azaleas mostly down around the Gulf of Mexico. His current talk will be online for a while at:

<https://youtu.be/Lx6mIdmCflw>

His talk on the *R. minus complex* this year featured beautiful slides taken in Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. He showed how the tube length of the flowers varied with distance from the ocean. The plants near the coast had longer tubes than the inland plants and plants in the mountains also had shorter tubes. The *R. minus* in the mountains has more trumpet shaped flowers and blooms with *Kalmia latifolia* in early summer. *Rhododendron minus* does better with mild winters and hot summers and grows on steep bluffs above creeks or rivers. *Rhododendron carolinianum* has shorter flower tubes with the flowers opening wide and flat. It blooms early before *Kalmia latifolia* in early spring. It does better in cold winter weather with no problems on exposed sites and also grows well in protective deciduous forests. It grows well on north facing slopes. Both species require good drainage and dislike soggy soil.

Tara Spears, a graduate student from the University of Pennsylvania who is a Curatorial Assistant at the Jenkins Arboretum gave a short talk after Dr. Bauer. Tara and Steve Wright, also at Jenkins Arboretum, were on an exploratory *Rhododendron* trip last summer with Don Hyatt and others.



Remember all photos can be seen in color and ENLARGED at MACARS.ORG.



Virginia House at Shrine Mont. Photo from their website. See website for facilities and map. <https://shrinemont.com/meeting-and-dining/virginia-house/>

MIDDLE ATLANTIC Chapter Member and Associates Roster February 2023

<u>Mbr #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone/Email</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Expires</u>
22139	Andruczyk, Michael	220 Etheridge Rd Chesapeake, VA 23322-3846	(757)-382-6348 mikeand@vt.edu	R	2023
11946	Banks, David	215 Charter House Ln Williamsburg, VA 23188-7808	757 561-9444 dfbanks@earthlink.net	R	2023
27283	Barb, Cody & Jennifer	4954 Alum Springs Rd Edinburgh, VA 22824-2527	540-333-7854 cody94@vt.edu	R	2023
7197	Barb, Hubert H	PO Box 875 Basye, VA 22810-0875	540-856-8592 homeplaceii@msn.com	R	2023
25025	Bauer, Richard & Susan	115 Hunters Ln Yorktown, VA 23692-2933	(757) 833-7737 rickbauer@cox.net	R	2023
2850	Beaudry, Norman	7921 Deepwell Dr Bethesda, MD 20817-1927	(301)-365-0130 beaunorm@gmail.com	As	2023
1531	Bedwell, William F	PO Box 125 Dinwiddie, VA 23841-0125	(804)-469-3521 wbedwell@verizon.net	R	2023
10571	Bell, Barbara P.	4038 Harborwood Rd Salem, VA 24153-5796	(540)-389-3082	L	XXXX
3050	Bernady, Karel F	2 St Anthony Ln Chester Springs, PA 19425-3126	610-827-0113 bernack@Verizon.net	As	2023
25503	Berrong, Dale K.	633 Drake Woods Rd Danielsville, GA 30633-2715	678 313-7645 amdoorga@aol.com	As	2025
19516	Boninti, Frances & Andrew	2505 Holkham Dr Charlottesville, VA 22901-9530	(804)-296-6464 fboninti@gmail.com	R	2024
5390	Breiding, Michael A	18 Huntington Ave Morgantown, WV 26501	epicroadttrips.us	L	XXXX
5820	Brents, Theresa	713 Churchmans Mill Rd Stuarts Draft, VA 24477-3178	(540) 337-1389 tbrents@gmail.com	R	2023
27166	Brown, Ricklin	103 Sixpence Ct Williamsburg, VA 23185		R	2023
21675	Burd, Samuel & Virginia	10524 Walter Thompson Dr Vienna, VA 22181-3028	(703)-242-8387 sdburd@hotmail.com	As	2023
13526	Burke, Anita & Doug	34 Old Colony North York, ON M2L 2J8 CANADA	(416)-449-7273 burkedc@hotmail.com	R	2023
17850	Cosby, Patricia Elizabeth	18168 Dogwood Trail Rd Rockville, VA 23146-1632	(804)-749-3462 cosby.patricia@gmail.com	L	xxxx
21878	DeBanico, Elaine L.	2000 Tremont Rd Charlottesville, VA 22911-8635		R	2023
5887	Duis, Fred & Charlotte	1231 Merriment Rd Bedford, VA 24523-4396	(540)-586-0693	L	XXXX
24708	Dukes, Benjamin	4335 Heron Point Portsmouth, VA 23703	(757)-35-5821 bendukes73@gmail.com	L	xxxx
17615	Feller, Bruce & Marianne	88 Old Field Rd Old Field, NY 11733-1646	(631)-689-9498 thefellers@verizon.net	As	2023
1346	Gredler, Michael	23341 Thornhill Rd Orange, VA 22960-3529	(540)-854-5230	R	2023
5951	Hall, Barbara & Alton	7261 Woody Rd Gloucester, VA 23061-4310	(804)-694-8122 hortusportus@cox.net	R	2023
12750	Hammer, Jeanne M	231 N Robinson Dr Macon, NC 27551-9093	434 989-1307 jeannehammer@gmail.com	R	2023
1574	Hopkins, Warren P.	10231 Rounding Run Richmond, VA 23238-3833	(804)-740-2966 wphopkins@outlook.com	R	2023
12343	Horn, Sharon & Dave	312 Oak Hill School Rd Mt Solon, VA 22843-3410	(540)-350-2666 hi.meadows.farm@gmail.com	R	2024
2920	Hyatt, Donald W	1948 Lorraine Ave McLean, VA 22101-5330	(703)-241-5421 donaldhyatt@verizon.net	As	2023
21142	James Madison University, Edith J. Carrier Arboretum MSC 3705	780 University Blvd. Harrisonburg, VA 22807-1020	540 568-3194 turnbugL@jmu.edu	C	2023
1689	James, Paul S	1662 Naff Rd Boones Mill, VA 24065-4015	(540)-334-5783	L	XXXX
6786	Jolley, Douglas & Davetta	PO Box 37 Heaters, WV 26627-0037	(304)-765-2608 aplectrumwv@yahoo.com	R	2023
1582	Kauffman, Glenn M.	1331 Lincolnshire Dr Harrisonburg, VA 22802-8355	(540)-434-5604 kauffgm@emu.edu	R	2023
12339	Kaylor, John S	1123 Streaker Rd	(410)-549-8982	As	2023

Chapter Full Roster Report

3086	Four Springs Farm Kroll, Arthur M.	Sykesville, MD 21784-8741 1410 Piper Way	john_kaylor@comcast.net 434-296-6508	R	2023
6243	Mangels, Bill	Keswick, VA 22947-9161 13801 York Rd Y304	arthurkroll@earthlink.net (443)-578-8547	As	2023
14547	Martin, Worthy N	Cockeysville, MD 21030 2639 Jefferson Park Cir	wamangels@aol.com 434-293-8738	Su	2023
27242	Matthew, Laurel	Charlottesville, VA 22903-4133 7242 Cactus Rd		R	2023
1604	McDonald, Sandra	Mechanicsville, VA 23111 4302 Chesapeake Ave	laurelm@lewisginter.org (757)-723-5612	L	XXXX
1606	McLellan, George Keen	Hampton, VA 23669-4638 5926 Ware Point Rd	sfmcdonald@verizon.net (804)-693-4253	R	2023
18784	McWhorter, Robert L.	Gloucester, VA 23061-4904 1666 Preakness Dr	georgemclellan38@icloud.com 443-871-8922	As	2023
18170	Meyers, Bill & Peggy	Gambrills, MD 21054-1150 1400 W Joppa Rd	mcwhorr@comcast.net (410)-321-6822	As	2024
17398	Miller, Joseph	Baltimore, MD 21204-3618 2715 Coxswain Pl	bpmeyers@aol.com 410-610-4452	As	2023
17180	Halit Kardak Mohr, Richard & Ginny	Anapolis, MD 21401 9200 Marseille Dr	hjosephmiller@verizon.net (301)-983-3075	As	2023
19172	Neckel, Daniel & Joanne	Potomac, MD 20854-2200 9702 South Run Oaks Dr	ginnymohr63@gmail.com (703)-690-6013	As	2023
26863	Neff/Hankins, Pamela/Gerald	Fairfax Station, VA 22039-2638 830 Tilman Rd	vaneckel@verizon.net	R	2023
7983	Nilsen, Erik & Karen	Charlottesville, VA 22901 500 Woodbine Drive	540 951-8611 enilsen@vt.edu	R	2023
25777	Porter, Debra & Robert	Blacksburg, VA 24060-1456 5402 Calstock Ct		R	2023
27239	Raimondi/Corbett, Charles/Susan	Burke, VA 22015-1923 PO Box 26		R	2023
23581	Reinke, Budne C. & Diane I.	Great Cacapon, WV 25422-0026 2503 Henderson Ave	(301)-946-4815 budne@aol.com	As	2023
19111	Russ, Margaret	Silver Spring, MD 20902-2039 21 Shady Ln	(910)-484-1400 buntieruss4@aol.com	R	2023
1641	Sauer, Debbie	Chapel Hill, NC 27517-4910 4709 Wellington Farms Dr	(804)-530-1111 ddsauer@gmail.com	L	XXXX
11527	Scallet, Robert J & Eliza CID	Chester, VA 23831 PO Box 68	(540)-456-6478	R	2023
21945	Scanlan, Jan	Batesville, VA 22924-0068 1166 Westmoreland Dr	(540)-434-1580 tomandjan1166@gmail.com	R	2023
14108	Segree, Carolyn R	Harrisonburg, VA 22801-3522 1806 Huntcreek Run	(301)-261-6215 csegree17@outlook.com	As	2023
26308	Sleasman, David	Gambrills, MD 21054-1835 PO Box 501	610-388-5440 library@longwoodgardens.org	C	2023
23718	Longwood Gardens Library Steeves, Elissa	Kennett Sqare, PA 19348 706 York Dr		R	2023
2523	Stilwell, Michael G	Blacksburg, VA 24060-3639 886 Double Cabin Rd	(276)-728-2674	L	XXXX
26224	Strickler, Sarah	Dugspur, VA 24325-3729 2436 N Utah St		R	2023
1658	Stubbs, Kendon L	Arlington, VA 22207-4030 330 Claremont Ln #337	(434) 823-1909 kls9h@virginia.edu	R	2023
20778	Stump, William	Crozet, VA 22932 109 Barron Ave	(304)-636-0534 wwstump@suddenlink.net	R	2023
23899	Taylor, David & Joan	Elkins, WV 26241-3725 226 Kings Grant Dr	(757)-898-8321 12.buckle.my.shoe@verizon.net	R	2023
26596	Trent, Michael John Wallace	Yorktown, VA 23692-3627 13201 Kings Hwy		R	2024
21244	UVA Alderman Library, Angela Wills/ Resource Acquisition	King George, VA 22485-4303 PO Box 400151	434.924.3489 lib-sub@virginia.edu	C	2023
1677	Willis, Lloyd L. & Margaret	Charlottesville, VA 22904-4105 5756 Apple Grove Ln	(434) 823-2177 mwillis@pvcc.edu	R	2023
1307	Young, Ann Booth	Crozet, VA 22932-3500 140 Hunting Cv	(757)-220-1572 torylodge@verizon.net	As	2023
		Williamsburg, VA 23185-3902			

GARDENS OPEN TO NEW MEMBERS - New members are encouraged to visit members' gardens in their area. The officers and board members have agreed to show new members through their gardens if the member will call ahead and arrange a convenient time. Telephone numbers and towns are listed below.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC CHAPTER OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President	Theresa Brents	540-337-1389	Stuarts Draft, VA	tbrents@gmail.com
Vice-President	Doug Jolley	304-765-1064	Heaters, WV	aplectrumwv@yahoo.com
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Treasurer	Debby Sauer	804-530-1111	Chester, VA	ddsauer@gmail.com
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	Sharon Horn	540-350-2666	Mt. Solon, VA	hi.meadows.farm@gmail.com
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	Sandra McDonald	757-723-5612	Hampton, VA	sfmcdonald@verizon.net
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District 9 Director	Richard Mohr	301-983-3075	Potomac, MD	
Alternate Director	Lloyd Willis	804-823-2177	Crozet, VA	lwillis@pvcc.edu

Memberships and renewals should be sent to our Membership Chairman Jeanne Hammer at 231 N Robinson Dr, Macon, NC 27551.

Annual membership dues are \$40 per year.

Miscellaneous inquiries may be sent to the editor (address below) for forwarding to proper individual.

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