



Potomac Valley Chapter

American Rhododendron Society

www.arspvc.org

Fall Newsletter: September 2019

Potomac Valley Chapter Calendar - 2019

- **September 15, 2019** – PVC Picnic, Seneca Creek State Park
- **September 27-29, 2019** – ARS Fall Conference, Parksville, BC, Canada
- **November 2, 2019** – PVC Fall Banquet, Normandie Farm, Potomac, MD
- **April 29 – May 3, 2020** – ARS 75th Anniv. Convention, Portland, OR

Chapter Officers

President: Ginny Mohr

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Secretary: Diane Reinke

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Treasurer: Phyllis Rittman

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Potomac Valley Chapter Picnic *and* Plant Sale

Where: Seneca Creek State Park

**11950 Clopper Rd
Gaithersburg, MD 20878**

Date: Sunday, September 15, 2019

Time: 1:00 – 5:00 PM

Once again, we will be holding our chapter picnic at Seneca Creek State Park. The date is Sunday, September 15, from 1 – 5 PM.

The Fawn Pavilion is the large covered picnic facility we have used for many years and is located on the south side of Clopper Lake. Follow the signs, or ask for directions at the gate. The park does charge a nominal entry fee per person that they will collect at the gate.

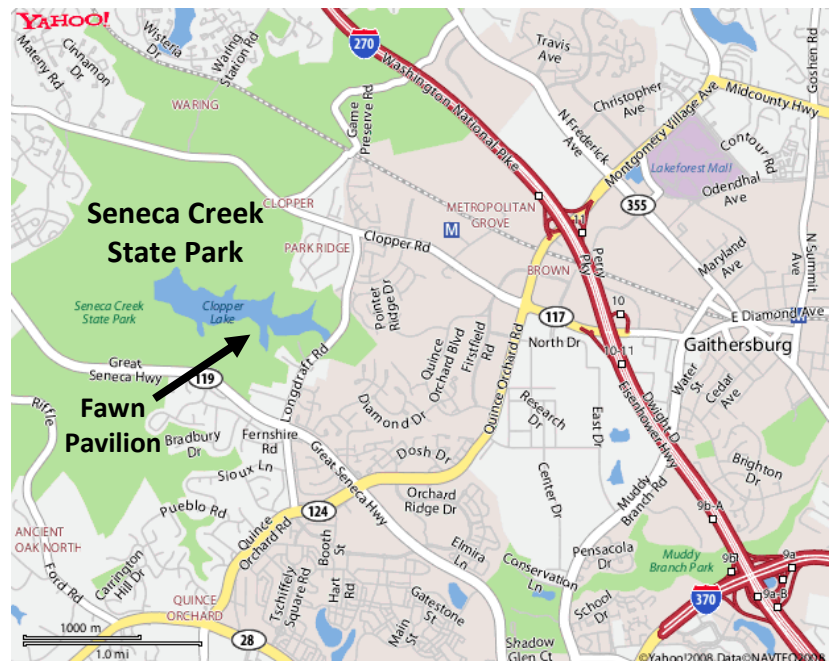
The chapter will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, buns, and condiments. Ginny Mohr has asked if someone can volunteer to bring drinks. Please let her know if you can assist. The rest of us are asked to bring something to supplement a typical picnic meal such as a salad, veggies, chips, other side dishes, or a dessert.

Alcoholic beverages are not allowed. There are no trash cans so we must remove our own trash. Please join us. We always have a great time.

We should have some rhododendrons from our Plants for Members program available for sale. These are cuttings we sent to Van Veen Nursery that are now liners ready to be planted in the garden this fall. They are great varieties, of course.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Take I-495 to I-270N toward Frederick
2. Merge onto I-270 Local N
3. Take the Exit #10 West, toward MD Rt. 124
4. Turn RIGHT onto MD 117 (Clopper Rd)
5. Turn LEFT into the Park: 11950 Clopper Rd



Fall Banquet: Dr Steve Krebs

Where: Normandie Farm Restaurant

10710 Falls Road, Potomac, MD 20854

Date: Saturday, November 2, 2019

Time: 12 noon to 4 PM

We will hold our annual banquet at the Normandie Farm again. Banquet details will be sent out in October with the registration form. Please save the date!

We are excited to announce that our speaker will be Dr. Steve Krebs. Steve is the recently retired Director of the David Leach Research Station, part of the Holden Arboretum in Ohio. He is a rhododendron expert and is probably best known for his innovative breeding program that created spectacular new hybrids that are resistant to root rot diseases.

The Mystery of the ‘Red Max’

by Donald W. Hyatt

(All photos by the author except where indicated)

The ‘Red Max’ is a rare red form of our native species, *Rhododendron maximum*. Discovered when they were building the Blue Ridge Parkway in the 1930’s, it has interested rhododendron enthusiasts for decades. Yes, there are many rhododendron hybrids and species with red flowers and some have much more spectacular blooms. However, this is arguably one of the rarest and most unusual plants in existence.

The ‘Red Max’ has some very unique properties. The flowers are red, at least most of the time, instead of the white to blush pink we associate with the species. However, the plant is very distinctive, in or out of bloom. It has red sap the color of cranberry juice that saturates its stems, leaves, and flowers. The sap does not reach the leaf edge so the margins will be green while the rest of the leaf is red. The foliage is quite striking, especially when backlit by the sun.



Red coloration in the foliage of the ‘Red Max’

We are not sure what causes that plant to produce the red sap. David Leach suggested that it may be temperature related and noted that grafts and rooted cuttings he made were not as deep in color as the original plant in the wild. [4]

Dr. August Kehr (“Augie”), one of our chapter founders, was fascinated by the ‘Red Max’ and wrote several articles on the “Mysterious Red Maximum.” [1][2] He proposed several theories but none were satisfactory. At first, he favored one suggesting the plant was a chimera composed of both red and white cell layers. In later years, he tended toward a theory of “moveable genes” that could cause the plant to sport differently depending upon where the genes were located. He admitted that more research was needed to understand what was really happening.

In a garden situation, clones of the ‘Red Max’ can be unpredictable. The red sap is not always uniformly



The ‘Red Max’ – A rare red form of *R. maximum*

distributed. Branches that contain that red sap will have that unique foliage, red buds, and will produce red flowers. Other branches on the same plant may not have any red sap so they will look like the typical *R. maximum* with large, dark green leaves, light green flower buds, and white to blush pink flowers. Sometimes, the sap may appear only in part of a flower truss so there can be a mixture of red and white blossoms, or even some flowers that are bicolored.

What can be confusing is that red sap production in the ‘Red Max’ can be capricious. The late Dr. Thomas Wheeldon, a founder of the Middle Atlantic Chapter ARS, was one of the first to root cuttings of the ‘Red Max’ from the wild. People were very eager to get the plant but then were furious when their plants had white blossoms. Dr. Wheeldon was embarrassed and assured them he was not trying to cheat anyone. The red color may not develop for years. Yes, it is a very strange and mysterious plant!

The original ‘Red Max’ in the wild was certainly not easy to find. It grows in a remote location not far from Mount Mitchell, the highest mountain in the eastern United States with an elevation of 6684 ft. (2037 m). The region is very heavily forested and difficult to traverse except on a few roads. The primary access is via the Blue Ridge Parkway.

That region of North Carolina is where we see the greatest diversity for the species *R. maximum*. The Parkway from milepost 330 to the entrance to Mount Mitchell State Park at milepost 355 and to beyond at milepost 360 seems to be exceptionally rich in variations. There are typical white to blush pink forms but also stronger pinks and picotee forms with white blossoms bordered in deeper pink to light red.

The ‘Red Max’ is not visible from Parkway but grows on a forested hillside near Curtis Creek about milepost 347. Access is via the Parkway, then on a dirt road, followed by a hike on a trail, but finally blind-faith bushwhacking through a dense thicket.

Variations of *R. maximum* including the 'Red Max'



Typical White Form



Blush Pink Form



Deeper Pink Form



Picotee Form



'Mount Mitchell' form showing bicolor truss



The 'Curtis Creek' form of the 'Red Max'



Red sap in the 'Red Max'



Red bud and normal bud on the same branch. The left will have red flowers.



Even the seed pods are red

The man credited with finding the ‘Red Max’ was named Mr. Clayton, one of many people involved in laying out the Parkway. According to legend, he was following a bear trail through the dense forest and encountered a population of about 15 to 20 plants of *R. maximum* that had crimson red flowers. He was not a botanist but immediately recognized their significance and brought others to the site. [1]

Unless someone takes you to the ‘Red Max’ it is unlikely that you will find it on your own. It is located in a dense “rhododendron hell” and not really noticeable until standing in close proximity to the plant. It is easy to get disoriented and lost in such overgrown areas. GPS technology is rarely useful since satellite signals are often blocked by the canopy.



One must work through a “rhododendron hell” to reach the ‘Red Max’ in the wild.

David Leach colorfully described a meeting he attended in 1957 which included a trip to the ‘Red Max.’ [3] Many East Coast rhododendron experts had gathered for a week-long program of the newly formed Southeastern Chapter ARS held in June at the Biltmore estate in Asheville. For many of them it was their first trip to see native azaleas and rhododendrons in the wild. Our annual treks go to many of those same places and we are similarly inspired. Our digital newsletter has some extra photos from this year’s trip.



***R. calendulaceum* with Mount Mitchell in the distance**

They visited hybrid swarms of native azaleas on the balds and remarked at the wide variations in color. They smelled *R. arborescens* on Wayah Bald. They admired large, brilliantly colored flame azaleas and were in awe of the vistas on Roan Mountain with the *R. catawbiense* in bloom. Leach wrote eloquently of his Roan experience, “No advance description could equal the magnificent spectacle of lavender-pink flowers in a vast billowing sea reaching out to the misty violet horizon of the mountains. Surely this is one of the great floral scenes of the nation, a vista of immense drama in a majestic setting.”



***R. catawbiense* in bloom on Roan Mountain**

Their final activity was a pilgrimage to see the rare ‘Red Max’ near Mount Mitchell. We went there this year, too, and I find it interesting to read that the access approach in 1957 seemed basically unchanged from what we go through today. Leach wrote, “As we slowly made our way toward the site, Dr. Ernest Yelton, one of our guides, exhibited his fantastic ability to pass through the all but impenetrable underbrush at a fast gallop, an exhibition of split-second writhing that would blench the cheek of either an All-American fullback or a fan dancer.”

Joe Gable made several trips to the ‘Red Max’ including the one described by David Leach. He returned again in 1960 with Dr. Skinner, Director of the U.S. National Arboretum, and several others. [1] Some people brought back cuttings or layers that time. Henry Yates took some wood of the ‘Red Max’ to fashion six gavels that were given to some of those in attendance. We do not know if they still exist.

They dug up a larger plant at the site estimated to weigh 100 lbs., dragged it down the trail, and gave it to Joe Gable to plant at his nursery in Stewartstown, PA. Gable was disappointed when it bloomed. The flowers were white until 1965 when it sported its first red blossoms. He indeed had the ‘Red Max.’

Gable and the late Captain Dick Steele of Nova Scotia made another trip in 1966. Captain Steele



Captain Steele's 'Red Max' Photo: John Weagle

brought back a flower truss, grafted the stem on 'County of York' and planted it at his first home at Boulderwood in Halifax, Nova Scotia. I saw that plant in 2006 and remarked it was the finest specimen I had ever seen. John Weagle tells me it is even better today. I have wondered if it might be a piece of the original plant in the wild which did eventually die.

Gable's daughter Carolyn sent cuttings of their 'Red Max' at Stewartstown to the Rhododendron Species Foundation. She named it 'Mount Mitchell.' Plants were distributed by the RSF as *R. maximum* 'Mount Mitchell' with the accession number 75/137.

The RSF received a second accession from David Leach that also carried the same name, *R. maximum* 'Mount Mitchell.' [4] The RSF gave it a different accession number, 77/646. The two forms are genetically different. Accession 77/646 was the best red selected from plants Warren Baldsiefen raised from Gable's seed.

There was yet another red *R. maximum* registered by Weldon Delp. His plant was a fourth-generation selection from seed originally from the Gable plant. He called his 'Delp's Red Max.'

By 1992, the original 'Red Max' in the wild had died, likely due to excessive competition and dense shade. It was a sad loss since that plant was estimated to be at least 100 years old and spread 35 to 40 ft. across. It had trunks 5 to 6 inches in diameter.

At that time, some Southeastern Chapter members including Ed Collins became stewards of the lone plant remaining in the wild. It was pitiful with one spindly trunk that leaned at a 45° angle. It might have been a layer of the original plant or else a seedling. They were not sure so they called it the 'Curtis Creek' form. They cut down trees to provide more light and it slowly began to recover. When I first saw a decade later, the plant was still small but has now recovered.

The 'Red Max' has been notoriously difficult to root. We grafted some cuttings of the 'Curtis Creek' form and took one west to the Rhododendron Species

The Recovery of the 'Red Max'



2004: George McLellan and Anita Burke with the 'Red Max.' Note its single trunk.



2012: Karel Bernady at the plant. The trunk was lower but new shoots were emerging from its base.



2016: George McLellan beside the 'Red Max' The new growth at the base is now head high.



2019: Charlie Andrews with the 'Red Max' The new growth now towers overhead.

Captain Steele's 'Red Max'



Photo: John Weagle



Photo: John Weagle



Photo: John Weagle

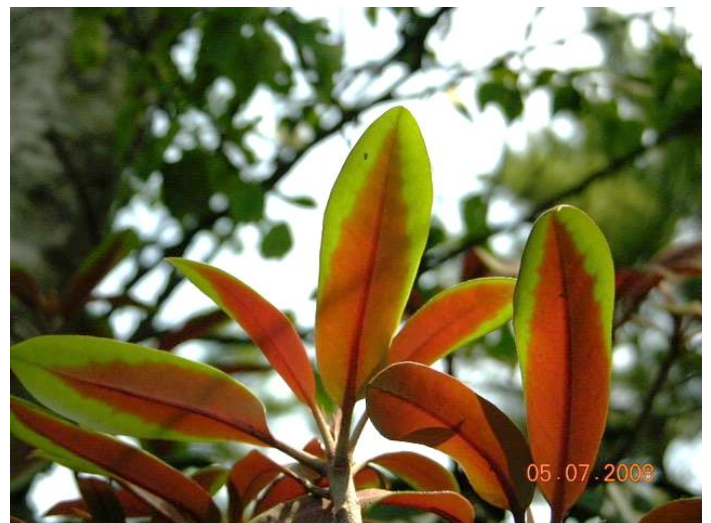


Photo: John Weagle

***R. maximum* 'Curtis Creek'**



Photo: Don Hyatt



Photo: Don Hyatt

Foundation. Having studied the plants at the RSF and sole plant in the wild, I think they are all genetically different. Dick Steele's plant could be different, too.

I remember my first trip to the 'Red Max' in the fall of 2003. Ed Collins and Bob Stelloh took me there and I must admit that I was anxious that we might get lost in that jungle. We did make it and I collected seeds. I raised 500 seedlings that we gave away at the 2006 Joint ARS/ASA Convention in Rockville, MD.

Over the years, people have shared images of their seedlings as they bloomed. I find that very exciting. Some plants have had red flowers but others not. Carol Segree's plant has red flowers, but part of her plant does have white blossoms. Jeanne Hammer's plant is a lovely strong pink. Beautiful!

I have made the pilgrimage to the 'Red Max' many times since 2003 to check on the plant and occasionally collect seeds to share. I also like to refresh my memory on how to get there. Since most of the originals who coaxed that plant back to health have passed on, we need a new group of stewards who will look after that plant in future generations.

When I hear of adverse weather in North Carolina, I do worry about the 'Red Max.' The winter of 2009-2010 was very rough in much of the eastern United States with relentless heavy snows and serious ice storms. Many mountainous regions, especially those near Mt. Pisgah and Mt. Mitchell, seemed to be particularly hard hit. Most deciduous trees lost large branches, and many were completely broken off.

Interestingly, very few rhododendrons showed any snow or ice damage. Since ice storms are relatively frequent in the mountains, the loss of the canopy in this manner must be one mechanism by which rhododendrons that had stopped blooming due to excessive shade get their moment in the sun. With the canopy gone, they get more light and will bloom more heavily for several years until it closes over again.

I was concerned that the 'Red Max' might have had trouble that winter because it still had that single trunk leaning at an angle. As I set out on a trail, I became concerned for a different reason since I saw evidence of fire. The closer I got to the 'Red Max,' the worse the damage. Rhododendrons, kalmia, and trees along the trail were badly burned. Some were regenerating from the base but others were not.

When I cut into the dense "rhododendron hell" to work my way up a slope to the 'Curtis Creek' plant, I could see that the fire had been more intense there. Huge old *R. maximum* plants were completely charred and I saw no signs of regeneration. I was certain that the sole surviving red *R. maximum* in the wild had met a similar fate. It was upsetting to think

that such a rare specimen might join ranks of other plants lost in the wild like the Franklania.

As I neared a small clearing near the 'Red Max,' I suddenly spied some red color through the dense snarl of branches. I actually had chills. Not only was the plant alive and well, it was in full bloom! The solitary trunk was now at a 30° angle, probably from snow. I could see where flames had been within a few feet of the trunk, but miraculously, I saw no sign of damage! How that fire managed to avoid this rare specimen baffles me. All I could think of is that the spirits of

The 'Red Max' and the Fire of 2010



Most *R. maximum* plants were killed by the fire.



The 'Curtis Creek' red *R. maximum* did survive!

great rhododendron leaders like Joe Gable, David Leach, Augie Kehr, Ed Collins, Bob Stelloh, and other admirers over at least the last half century must have gathered round to deflect the flames.

Later I learned that the Forest Service set that fire on Easter weekend to burn some of the broken tree branches. Since that time, I have been spreading seed of the 'Red Max' around in the wild on nurse logs near the original plant and places that were burned. It would be nice to rebuild the population in the wild.

For years I had mused about crossing two forms of the 'Red Max.' In 2015, it was not in bloom when we checked on it but J. Jackson and his wife Lindy Johnson went back when it was in flower to gather pollen off of the 'Curtis Creek' form. They sent it to me but I forwarded it to Bruce Clyburn in Nova Scotia who happened to have a budded plant of the 'Mount Mitchell' form that had not opened yet. He crossed the two and sent seed of that cross in the 2016 ARS Seed Exchange, cross #16-22. It quickly sold out so we hope many people around the world are growing seedlings from this cross. Even if the remaining plant suffers some catastrophe, surely its genes will live on.

The 'Red Max' is indeed an oddity. The truth is that we really don't what causes it to behave the way it does. It is comforting to know that for nearly 90 years, enthusiasts have been trying to preserve this rare mutation for future generations. Let's hope we can continue to save such rare treasures in the wild. Who knows? There may be even stranger plants out there in the wild we have yet to discover.

- For more pictures and commentary from the late Bob Stelloh, check out the ASA Picture Archives: <https://pbase.com/bstellloh/curtis>
- Expert photographer Jim Fowler has beautiful images in a blog he posted in July of 2015: <http://www.jfowlerphotography.com/?p=5497>

[1] Kehr, Dr. August E., "The Mysterious Red Maximum from Mt. Mitchell", Journal of the American Rhododendron Society, Vol. 48, No. 1, 1994.

[2] Kehr, Dr. August E., "Up-date on the Red Maximum from Mt. Mitchell", Journal of the American Rhododendron Society, Vol. 52, No. 4, 1998.

[3] Leach, Dr. David G., "A New Look at the Rhododendrons and Azaleas of the Blue Ridge Mountains", Journal of the American Rhododendron Society, Vol. 12, No. 1, 1958.

[4] Leach, Dr. David G., "The Rosebay Rhododendron: Historical Oddities, Unusual Forms, Its Value as a Parent", Journal of the American Rhododendron Society, Vol. 19, No. 2, April 1965.

Name Confusion

The late Don Voss emphasized the problem of duplicate names in horticulture which is why we need Rhododendron Registration. We are not registering a plant, but registering a cultivar name so there will be no confusion as to which plant is which.

Names must be unique. Don pointed out an egregious example on page 95 of the International Rhododendron Register which listed some plants people have called 'Aurora' over the years. There should be only one cultivar named 'Aurora' so these unregistered names have caused much confusion:

- 'Aurora' - Deciduous Ghent Azalea (1839)
- 'Aurora' - Evergreen Indian Azalea (1851)
- 'Aurora' - Knap Hill Azalea (1947)
- 'Aurora' - Evergreen Kaempferi Azalea (1958)
- 'Aurora' - Mollis Azalea (1958)
- 'Aurora' - Evergreen Azalea Sport (pre 1985)
- 'Aurora' - Dwarf Rhododendron (pre 1847)
- 'Aurora' - Elepidote Rhododendron (1922)
- 'Aurora Group' - Rhododendron grex (1922)
- 'Aurora' - Elepidote Rhododendron (1961)
- 'Aurora' - Vireya Rhododendron (1892)
- 'Aurora Australis' - Rhododendron (pre 1969)
- 'Aurora Lilacina' - Evergreen Azalea (1870)
- 'Aurora Nova' - Ghent Azalea (1868)
- 'Aurora Rosea' - Evergreen Azalea (1868)
- 'Aurore' - Evergreen Azalea (1868)

That is one reason Caroline Gable did not to register the cultivar 'Red Max' as her father's plant. It is also why people chose 'Curtis Creek' for the remaining plant in the wild. They are likely distinct cultivars from the original red *R. maximum*. There is some ambiguity with Baldsiefen's 'Mount Mitchell' since it is not the same plant as Gable's form. That plant should be given a unique name.

Dues are Due

September is the start of our dues renewal season. We will be sending your 2019 renewal notice shortly as well as a return envelope for you to mail back to our treasurer, Phyllis Rittman. That mailing will include the registration form for the Fall Banquet.

Online Dues Renewals

The ARS does accept online renewals so people can use credit card payments even if the local chapter does not have that option. If you prefer to pay by credit card or personal Pay Pal account, check out the ARS Office and click on Membership Services:

<https://www.arsoffice.org/>

You will need your "membership number" to continue which is on your Journal mailing label.

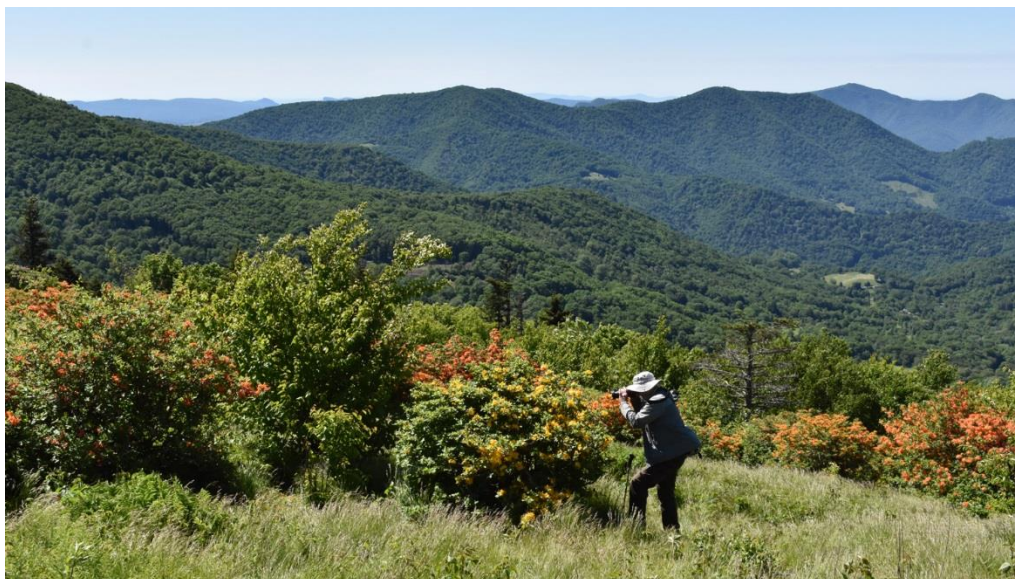
Roan Mountain: Images from the June 2019 Mountain Hikes



R. calendulaceum 'Big Bird' on Roan near Jane Bald



Orange-red *R. calendulaceum* along the Appalachian Trail



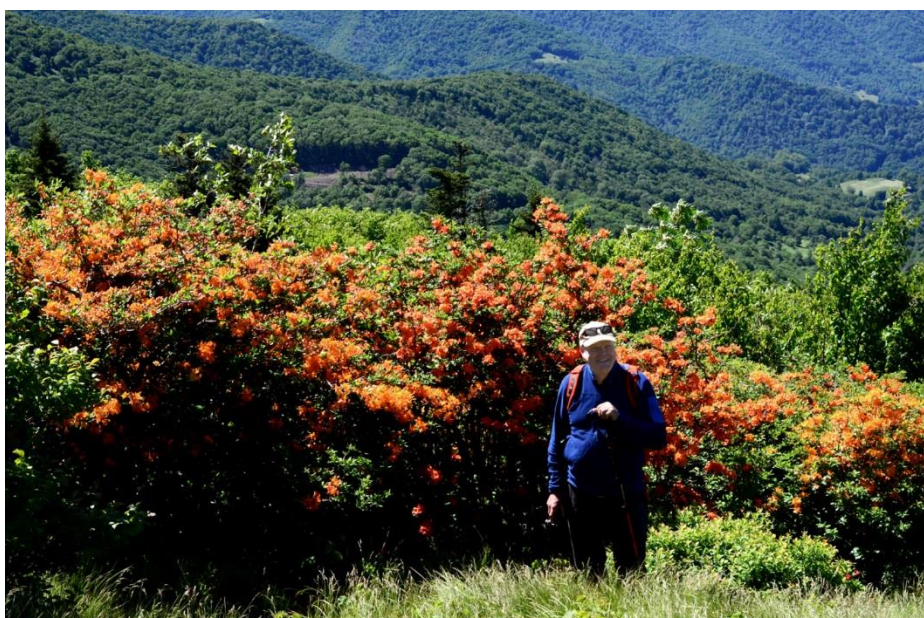
George McLellan photographs *R. calendulaceum* at Engine Gap



R. catawbiense



R. calendulaceum 'Frilly Jane'



Steve Krebs Admires *R. calendulaceum* along the Appalachian Trail

J. Jackson and Lindy Johnson's garden in Trade, TN: Hikers admire their Native Azaleas



Left to Right: Roberta Brown, Mike Bamford, Steve Krebs, Charlie Andrews, Lindy Johnson, George McLellan, & J. Jackson



Hooper Bald and the 2019 Azalea Festival in Robbinsville, NC



R. calendulaceum 'Hooper Pumpkin'



Local people as well as ARS and ASA members give tours of the Bald



Residents learn to plant native azalea seed.



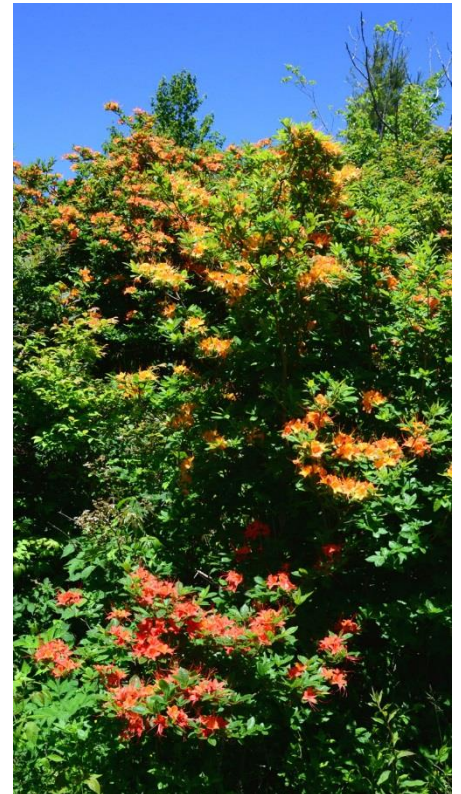
Cherokee Indians Perform



Vendors at the Azalea Festival in Robbinsville



Gold *R. calendulaceum*



Flame Azaleas on the Bald



Hooper Bald 'Best Red'



George McLellan admires the view from Hooper Bald

R. calendulaceum ‘Best Red’

by Don Hyatt

It is interesting to follow the evolution of names used for plants. When I joined the ARS in 1968, Britt Smith and Frank Mossman were selecting forms of the fragrant West Coast native azalea, *R. occidentale*. They were very methodical and kept notes on the many superior varieties they observed in the wild.

They seemed to refrain from using common names and listed plants by number. The plant SM 148 had huge flowers and SM 30 had a gold blotch extending to each petal. SM 502 was a picotee form and was eventually named ‘Humboldt Picotee’. It is stunning!

I ordered seed from the ARS Seed Exchange but discovered that the species does not survive in our warm climate. Sadly, every plant eventually died.

John Delano and Norm Beaudry can converse in numbers when referencing the Cowles rhododendron hybrids on Cape Cod. Those of us who chase the native azaleas and rhododendrons in the Southern Appalachians tend to use names that bring images of the plants to mind instead.



R. occidentale SM 502
‘Humboldt Picotee’

A beautiful, large flowered red *R. calendulaceum* on Hooper Bald we call ‘Best Red’ has an interesting history in the evolution of its name. We have been working down there to help restore the bald since 2003. We did give numbers to many of the superior plants we observed but we still rely on names.

A large flowered red *R. calendulaceum* that we labeled FS-11-20 was getting overgrown. In 2008 we started clearing around it and by 2013 the plant had become a spectacular specimen. We thought it was the best red flame azalea on Hooper Bald and referred to it as ‘Best Red,’ but only temporarily.



FS-11-20: Now known as “Second Best Red”



R. calendulaceum ‘Best Red’

As we continued to clear other areas of the bald, a spindly, overgrown plant that had not bloomed for many years flowered for the first time. We were blown away because it was even more spectacular than FS-11-20. It was not only the best red flame azalea on Hooper Bald but the best we had seen anywhere in the wild. The flowers were large, a strong red, and ruffled. We decided we couldn’t call it ‘Better than Best Red’ so we demoted FS-11-20 to ‘Second Best Red’ and deemed that the new plant should now be called ‘Best Red.’ These confusing names are obviously not acceptable for registration. We will have to choose something else eventually.

We have self-pollinated ‘Best Red’ and collected open pollinated seed. We gave away seedlings of ‘Best Red, op’ (open pollinated), at the 2016 convention. They are not clones of ‘Best Red.’ Seedlings, like children, have genetic variability. They will have traits of their parents, but each one is different. Some may not be as good but some could



Seedling of ‘Best Red’

Photo: J. Jackson & Lindy Johnson

be better. Bill Miller told me his ‘Best Red’ seedling was a large orange but J. Jackson and Lindy flowered a seedling that looks like it may be better than ‘Best Red.’ They shared an image with me (left) which looks amazing. Yes, we may need to find a new superlative for their azalea!

Potomac Valley Chapter ARS - Newsletter
Donald W. Hyatt, Editor
Don@donaldhyatt.com



**Potomac Valley Chapter
of the
American Rhododendron Society**

The Potomac Valley Chapter ARS is one of three American Rhododendron Society chapters located in District 9 which represents the Middle Atlantic region of the United States. Some chapter activities include:

- Regular Meetings with Speakers
- Annual Chapter Banquet
- Garden Tours
- Field Trips to Nurseries or to Wild Stands of Native Azaleas and Rhododendrons
- Local and National Seed Exchanges
- Plants for Members Program
- Flower Show
- Informative Chapter Newsletters
- Annual Photography Contest
- Access to Chapter Library Books

Our regular chapter meetings are usually held four times a year at the Potomac Community Center in Potomac, MD, on Sunday afternoons. However, we do hold occasional meetings at other locations in nearby Maryland, Virginia, or Washington, DC.

We encourage you to check out our chapter website which includes at least 16 years of previous newsletters that contain interesting articles, more color pictures, and examples of past activities:

www.arspvc.org

As a member of our local chapter you will also become a member at the national level of the American Rhododendron Society. This entitles you to a year's subscription of their outstanding quarterly **Journal** filled with information and many color pictures. You will also be invited to attend national conventions or regional conferences.

The cost of ARS membership is \$40 per year and includes membership in a chapter of your choice, such as our Potomac Valley Chapter. If you are already a member of another ARS Chapter, you may join the Potomac Valley Chapter as an Associate Member for only \$10 per year but you will need to identify your home chapter.

For more information about the American Rhododendron Society, check out their website:

www.rhododendron.org

**Membership Application
American Rhododendron Society**

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____

Zip/Country _____

Telephone _____

E-mail: _____

Memberships are on a calendar year basis and include the local chapter membership:

Individual/Family.....	\$40.00
Student (proof of age required).....	10.00
Commercial/Corporate.....	90.00
Sustaining	75.00
Sponsoring.....	150.00
Life, single	1,000.00
Life, family.....	1,500.00
Associate Membership*.....	10.00

**Associate Members must identify home chapter*

I would like my "home" chapter to be the Potomac Valley Chapter

To join our chapter, send this form with payment to:

**POTOMAC VALLEY CHAPTER ARS
PVC-ARS Chapter Treasurer
10840 Fairchester Dr., Fairfax, VA 22030**

You may also send this form with US Funds payable to the national organization:

**AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY
P.O. Box 214
Great River, NY 11739**

To pay online by credit card, follow the link to "Membership" on the ARS website:

www.rhododendron.org

More ARS National Contact Points:

Phone (631) 533-0375, Fax (866) 883-8019

Email: member@arsoffice.org