

Bright Spots



Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

A SELF GUIDED WALKING TOUR

September 13, 2017

Did you know...?

Usually when we think of azaleas we think of Spring, but there are some beauties abloom in the garden right now. These are reblooming azaleas. They have already produced Spring flowers for Virginia's Garden Week, and now they are contributing to Fall color. Many of these plants are patented under the name Encore® azalea. They first became available in the late 1990s, the work of Robert E. "Buddy" Lee, a plant breeder and nurseryman from Louisiana. This group derives from a cross between spring blooming azaleas and *Rhododendron oldhamii* "Fourth of July".

The garden's Plant Explorer database lists 22 varieties of Encore® azaleas. Many have the word "Autumn" in their cultivar name. Several are in bloom now, including 'Autumn Royalty' and 'Autumn Sundance' listed below. Not much published material is available on these rebloomers, but the article by Will Ferrell (not the actor) in *The Azalean* (below) is a knowledgeable evaluation of the merits of many specific cultivars. Besides the Encore® series there are at least two other patented reblooming lines: ReBLOOM™ Azaleas by breeder Bob Head and Bloom-a-thon from Monrovia.

To sow confusion, I must note that the Azalea 'August to Frost' with its bright white blossoms (along the Flagler walk) is not considered a rebloomer. It was hybridized by M. B. Matlack in 1940, possibly a cross between *R. mucronatum* var. *mucronatum* and an unknown species.

Sources: <http://www.encoreazalea.com/>; "Personal Observations on Encore® Azaleas in a Zone 7 Garden", Will Ferrell, *The Azalean*, Fall 2013, pp. 56-57; <http://www.gardenality.com/Articles/855/Plants/Shrubs/The-Best-Of-The-Encore-Azaleas/default.html>; <http://www.hirsutum.info/rhododendron/azaleas/detail.php?id=19095>; <https://www.azaleas.org/encore-azaleas/>

***Notable Plants:** Several times each month, Garden Volunteers record the most dramatic seasonal displays and highlight exceptional plants in the garden and Conservatory.

+Denotes Virginia Native Plant

Plant Material	Location
CENTRAL GARDEN and CONSERVATORY LOOP	
FOUNTAIN TERRACE <i>Tropical display in yellow, reds and purple include Caladium, Begonia, Bromeliad, Cordyline, Agave and Petunia</i> <i>Notice the four Lantana trained to a single standard in tall pots around the Fountain</i>	

OUTSIDE THE GATES TURN LEFT	
TURN RIGHT TO ENTER	
GEORGE BRAGDON DAFFODIL GARDEN	
Helen's Flower, <i>Helenium</i> x 'Ruby Tuesday', mounded plant, flowers have dark maroon petals around a golden eye	Right of path
* <i>Solanum quitoense</i> , dramatic green leaves with purple veins studded with spines; fuzzy fruits forming	All urns
Sedum, <i>Hylotelephium spectabile</i> 'Brilliant', flat clusters of pink flowers over fleshy leaves	Throughout
RETURN TO THE BRICK PATH, TURN RIGHT TO	
EAST and WEST TRIANGLE BEDS	
Summer annuals and tropicals in gold, purple and red	
FOUNTAIN GARDEN	
Upper Level	
<i>Agastache</i> x 'Blue Boa', wands of fuzzy blue-purple flowers on low mounding plant	Center of beds on both sides
* <i>Hibiscus</i> , <i>Hibiscus Summerific</i> ® 'Cranberry Crush' deep scarlet blooms on small shrub	West side behind hydrangea
Tickseed, <i>Coreopsis verticillata</i> 'Cruzin Broad Street', rust red daisy-like blooms over finely-cut foliage	Right of path
<i>Abelia</i> , 'Little Richard', low glossy-leaved shrub, small tubular white flowers, much visited by bees and butterflies, fragrant	Both sides
* <i>Hibiscus</i> , <i>Hibiscus 'Peppermint Schnapps'</i> Cordial™ <i>Hibiscus</i> , rose pink blooms with a red eye	East side
Bluebeard, <i>Caryopteris</i> x <i>clandonensis</i> , 'Longwood Blue', Small shrub with bluegreen leaves, indigo blue flowers emerging along stems	East side
Willow-leaved sunflower, <i>Helianthus salicifolius</i> 'Low Down', Shaggy daisy-like yellow flowers with brown centers over thread-like foliage	East side
CONTINUE UP THE STEPS TO THE CONSERVATORY	
Ornamental grass, <i>Bouteloua gracilis</i> 'Blonde Ambition', spikes of bristly pale seed heads floating above clumps of blue-green foliage	Grass beds outside the Conservatory
Ravenna Grass, <i>Saccharum ravennae</i> , very tall erect, clump-forming grass	Outside corners, rear of bed
Conservatory Ponds	
Mosaic Plant, <i>Ludwigia sedioides</i> , small yellow blossoms, red and green diamond-shaped leaves in rosettes float on water surface	Both sides
Egyptian Papyrus, <i>Cyperus papyrus</i> , tall straight stems with globe of green "threads" on top	Throughout
<i>Victoria cruziana</i> , large floating leaves like round trays with turned up edges, older leaves have collapsed edges	Throughout
CONSERVATORY	
Palm House	
Queen Sago Palm, <i>Cycas circinalis</i> , cone-bearing evergreen, stiff leaves with stiff narrow leaflets and strongly recurved margins. Notice the emerging velvety new leaves. This plant is not actually a palm tree.	Central spiral planter, right side
East Wing	
ENJOY THE ABUNDANCE OF ORCHIDS	
<i>Bougainvillea</i> x Monka', Oo-la-la ^R , magenta-red flower bracts on climbing branches	Far left corner, climbing on glass

North Wing BUTTERFLIES LIVE! IS OPEN UNTIL OCTOBER 15	
West Wing	
Ellemeet's Agave, <i>Agave ellemeetiana</i> , huge specimen with gracefully curving leaves, from the cloud forests of Mexico near Oaxaca	Left of entrance
<i>Oxalis triangularis</i> 'Mijke', dark purple triangular leaves with pale shell pink flowers	Throughout
Crown of Thorns, <i>Euphorbia milii</i> , succulent plant, dark green leaves grow along thick, thorny stems; red-orange flowers	Far end, past cottage, left side
OUTSIDE WEST WING PROCEED AHEAD TO VISIT KROGER COMMUNITY KITCHEN GARDEN AND OUR DEMONSTRATION APIARY	
RETRACE STEPS FROM CONSERVATORY PROCEED DOWN STEPS TO	
FOUNTAIN GARDEN <i>A lush planting of summer annuals</i>	
TURN LEFT ALONG TRIANGLE BEDS FOUNTAIN GARDEN Lower Level	
Crape Myrtle, <i>Lagerstroemia</i> 'Lipan', bright lavender blooms above mottled silver trunks	Throughout
AT INTERSECTION TURN RIGHT TOWARD EDUCATION CENTER, THEN LEFT TO ENTER	
MEDITATION GARDEN RIGHT OF PATH <i>Bromeliads, Cannas, Petunias, Begonias, and Grasses</i>	
Angel's Trumpet, <i>Brugmansia</i> cv., Tall stems with dangling yellow trumpet flowers emerging along stems	Center bed
MEDICINAL GARDEN LEFT OF PATH	
*Ornamental Pepper, <i>Capsicum annum</i> 'Black Pearl' , clusters of black berries above dark purple foliage, tiny lavender flowers	Center rear bed
WALK STRAIGHT INTO	
FOUR SEASONS GARDEN	
Cape Leadwort, <i>Plumbago auriculata</i> , small shrub with blue flowers in clumps above bright green foliage	Left bed
Reed Grass, <i>Calamagrostis x acutiflora</i> 'Karl Foerster', ornamental grass with erect clumps of narrow, flattened, green leaves, tall feather plumes	Throughout
Yellow Patrinia, <i>Patrinia scabiosifolia</i> , umbels of chrome yellow above ferny foliage	Right bed
RETURN TO THE VISITOR CENTER OR ADD	
ASIAN VALLEY LOOP TAKE NOTE OF THE VARIETY OF FOLIAGE COLORS AND TEXTURES CHARACTERISTIC OF AN ASIAN GARDEN	
AT THE INTERSECTION, TURN LEFT WALKING ALONG LAKE.	
Weeping Katsura Tree, <i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i> f. <i>pendulum</i> , small tree with heart-shaped blue-green leaves aging to peach, smell of burnt sugar	Right of path

Sedum, <i>Hylotelephium spectabile</i> 'Frosty Morn', Flat clusters of lime green flowers aging to pink and fuchsia, fleshy leaves	Left of path
Windflower, <i>Anemone hupehensis</i> , five petal pearl pink flowers around golden centers on long arching stems	Left of path
* Obedient Plant, <i>Physostegia virginiana</i> 'Vivid' , tall spikes of pink tubular flowers rise above sharply toothed leaves	Left of path at intersection
AT THE INTERSECTION TURN RIGHT	
THEN TURN LEFT DOWN THE WINDING PATH	
AT THE INTERSECTION, TURN LEFT THEN RIGHT ONTO BOARDWALK TO ENTER	
WEST ISLAND GARDEN A WETLAND ECOSYSTEM	
+Fringe Tree, <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> , small tree bearing green olive-like drupes aging to black	Both sides of boardwalk at entrance
+Ironweed, <i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i> , tall upright plant with fluffy deep purple flowers	Left of boardwalk
* Beauty Berry, <i>Callicarpa dichotoma</i> , shrub with vivid purple berries along arching stems	Left of walkway
+Meadow Beauty, <i>Rhexia virginica</i> , erect perennial with rose-pink blooms, large yellow anthers, maturing to tiny vase –shaped seed heads	Central bed
Goldenrod, <i>Solidago shortii</i> 'Solar Cascade', sprays of bright yellow flowers along arching stems above deep green foliage	Right of walkway
Joe Pye Weed, <i>Eutrochium dubium</i> 'Little Joe', (formerly <i>Eupatorium</i>) buds opening to clusters of flat mauve flowers on sturdy stems	Left of walkway
Bush Clover, <i>Lespedeza thunbergii</i> 'Gibraltar', shrub with arching stems of blue-green foliage and vivid pink flowers	Across path at end of walkway
AT THE END OF THE BOARDWALK, TURN LEFT THEN	
TURN LEFT ON THE BRICK PATH TO ENTER	
Joan Van Arnam Memorial Walk	
Windflower, <i>Anemone japonica</i> 'Queen Charlotte', pale pink flowers with striking yellow centers on long graceful stems	Left of path
Rhododendron, <i>Rhododendron</i> 'Autumn Royalty', Encore® azalea with fuchsia pink trumpet flowers	Left of path
AT THE INTERSECTION, BEAR RIGHT TO ENTER	
FLAGER PERENNIAL GARDEN LOOP	
BEAR RIGHT ONTO BRICK PATH	
Hostas and Ferns mingle with a wonderful variety of textures and colors.	Throughout
Look Left across the Stream, Note the Variety of Forms and Textures in the Emerging Grass Garden on the Berm	
Sweet Coneflower, <i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i> , lanky plant, flowers have gold petals radiating from green center	Left of path
* Japanese Forest Grass, <i>Hakonechloa macra</i> 'All Gold' , neon yellow-green arching foliage	Left of path
Rhododendron, <i>Rhododendron</i> 'August to Frost', azalea with white trumpet blossoms	Left of path
TURN LEFT AT THE WOODLAND WALK SIGN, TURN LEFT DOWN THE STAIRS	
Encore® azalea Autumn Sundance™ <i>Rhododendron</i> 'Roblef' PP16184, Group of 4 shrubs with deep pink ruffled, trumpet-shaped flowers	Right of path
Ostrich Fern, <i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i> , green fronds with vase-shaped growth, inner leaves resemble ostrich feathers	Right of path

Hardy Begonia, <i>Begonia grandis</i> 'Alba', dangling white flowers over handsome bronzy leaves with red undersides	Both sides of path near pool
BEAR LEFT AT THE FORK, THROUGH THE SMALL GATE	
Voodoo Lily, <i>Sauromatum venosum</i> , U-shaped cluster of lance shaped leaves, distinctive leopard spotted stems	Left of path
CONTINUE ON PATH	
AT THE END OF THE PATH, TURN RIGHT, TO ENTER THE	
GRACE ARENTS GARDEN A VICTORIAN STYLE GARDEN	
A collection of annuals in pastel shades accented with lime green	Throughout
Japanese Rose, <i>Rosa rugosa</i> , showy orange-red fruit called "hips" follow blooms	Perimeter beds
WALK PAST THE BRICK CIRCLE TO ENTER THE CHERRY TREE WALK	
Thinleaf Sunflower, <i>Helianthus decapetalus</i> 'Capenoch Star', tall shrub-like plant with yellow daisy petals around gold centers	Left of path at back of berm
Gaura, <i>Gaura lindheimeri</i> 'Rosyjane', graceful wands of white blooms edged with candy pink	Throughout
Lotus, <i>Nelumbo</i> 'Mrs. Perry D. Slocum', dark brown seed pods that look like shower heads	Left side, along lake's edge
Panicle Hydrangea, <i>Hydrangea paniculata</i> DVppinky' Pinky Winky®, small shrub with white panicles aging to dusky pink	Both sides
Switchgrass, <i>Panicum virgatum</i> 'Northwind', olive green to blue green grass topped by beige plumes	Left of path before tree house
Cardinal Flower, <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> 'Black Truffle', red tubular-shaped flowers on tall stems, a favorite of hummingbirds	Next to tree house at lake's edge
Blue Cardinal Flower, <i>Lobelia siphilitica</i> , stiff unbranched stems topped with blue tubular flowers	Next to tree house at lake's edge
Passion Flower, <i>Passiflora</i> 'Incense', vine climbs by tendrils, frilly fragrant flowers with creamy protruding center and many lavender petals	Right side, vining on fence
BEAR LEFT INTO LUCY PAYNE MINOR GARDEN	
Panicle Hydrangea Vanilla Strawberry™, <i>Hydrangea paniculata</i> 'Renhy', light pink panicles on low mounding shrub maturing to strawberry red	Left of path
Panicle Hydrangea, <i>Hydrangea paniculata</i> 'Ilvobo', white fluffy panicles on low mounding shrub	Left of path and throughout
CONTINUE ON AGGREGATE WALK AROUND TO THE LEFT	
Russian Sage, <i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i> , lavender flower spikes on billows of silvery foliage	Right of path
Bottlebrush Buckeye, <i>Aesculus parviflora</i> , large shrub with palmate leaves and emerging brown fig-shaped fruit	Right of path
*Ginkgo, <i>Ginkgo</i> 'Mariken', small specimen tree that only grows 2-3 ft. tall with distinctive ginkgo leaf shape and color	Left of path
VIENNA COBB ANDERSON MEADOW AND CONSTRUCTED WETLAND	
Spend a minute taking in the variety of color and texture in our densely planted meadow. Birds and pollinators appreciate the abundance of food and shelter that the plants provide.	

Brown-eyed Susan, <i>Rudbeckia triloba</i> , 3-4 foot, many small bright yellow daisies with dark brown centers, densely-branched	Throughout
LOUISE COCHRANE ROSE GARDEN	
Directions are from the labyrinth, facing the lake	
Rosa, 'Cherry Parfait', Grandiflora, Meiland, 3-4' tall, creamy white bloom with red edges, fragrant	Right of path
Hybrid Tea Rose, Rosa 'Flight 93', tall stems with dark red flowers; white stripe on inside of petals (named to "forever honor and remember the heroes of 9/11 aboard United Airlines Flight 93.")	To left along main path
EXIT THE ROSE GARDEN, TURN RIGHT ON THE AGGREGATE PATH	
MAIN GARDEN PATH	
Dwarf Crape Myrtle, <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> 'Gamad1' RAZZLE DAZZLE CHERRY, low-growing prostrate shrub with crimson panicles	Triangle bed opposite Lotus Bridge
Windflower, <i>Anemone hupehensis</i> , drifts of five-petal flowers in shades of pink on long arching stems	Left of path on berm
Kalimeris, <i>Kalimeris mongolica</i> , white button flowers on lime green stems	Left of path
Rose Mallow, <i>Hibiscus</i> x 'Lord Baltimore', huge, deep pink flowers on very tall stems	Right of path
Rose Mallow, <i>Hibiscus</i> x 'Blue River II', large white flowers on tall stems	Right of path
* <i>Hibiscus</i> 'Kopper King', tall stems, dark leaves, large pink flowers with red centers	Right of path
THE VISITOR CENTER IS STRAIGHT AHEAD ON THE LEFT	