

Building a Mountain Bald

Tom Ranney

Mountain Inspiration

Mt. Kenya - *Dendrosenecio adnivalis*, *Erica arborea*, *Gladiolus watsonioides*, *Lobelia telekii*

Haleakala - *Argyroxiphium sandwicense* subsp. *Macrocephalum*

Colorado Rockies – *Aquilegia coerulea*, *Castilleja miniata*, *Tetranneuris grandiflora*, *Lupinus argenteus*, *Delphinium glaucum*

Mountains of WNC – *Abies fraseri*, *Lilium grayi*, *Rhododendron calendulaceum*, *catawbiense*, *vaseyi*, etc.

Garden Inspiration

Lan Su, Chinese Garden, Portland, OR – Garden of Awakening Orchids.

A few plants on and around the bald

Grasses and Sedges

Andropogon gerardi – big bluestem

Bouteloua gracilis- grama grass

Danthonia compressa – flattened oatgrass

Miscanthus sinensis ‘My Fair Maiden’ - new seedless miscanthus

Muhlenbergia capillaris – pink muhly grass

Schizachyrium scoparium – little bluestem

Sporobolus heterolepis – prairie dropseed

Carex morrowii var. *temnolepis* ‘Silk Tassel’ – Japanese grass sedge

Carex pensylvanica – Pennsylvania sedge

Carex scaposa – Cherry Blossom Sedge

Ferns

Athyrium niponicum – Japanese painted fern

Dryopteris erythrosora - autumn fern

Polystichum acrostichoides – Christmas fern

Polystichum ×dycei - Dyce’s holly fern

Bog Plants

Andromeda polifolia – bog rosemary

Fothergilla gardenii – dwarf witchalder

Helonias bullata – swamp pink

Iris ensata ‘Nikko’ – Japanese Iris

Lobelia cardinalis – cardinal flower

Myosotis scorpioides – aquatic forget-me-not

Sarracenia ‘Daina’s Delight’ – hybrid pitcher plant

Sarracenia leucophylla ‘Tarnok’ – white top pitcher plant

Sarracenia flava – yellow pitcher plant

Herbaceous Perennials - Sun

Aster (Symphyotrichum) novi-belgii 'Blue Lagoon' - daisy aster
Allium 'Summer Beauty', 'Millenium'
Alstroemeria 'Sweet Laura', 'Freedom', 'Mauve Majesty', 'Tangerine Tango' – Peruvian lily
Amsonia spp. – blue star.
Aquilegia- columbines
Aster novae-angliae – New England aster
Asclepias tuberosa - butterfly weed
Baptisia spp. – false indigo
Centaurea – cornflower
Coreopsis – tickseed
Crocsmia sp. - crocosmia
Echinacea – coneflowers
Geranium 'Rozanne' – cranesbill
Gaura lindheimeri – gaura
Liatris microcephala – small-headed gayfeather
Lobelia cardinalis – Cardinal flower
Lycoris radiata 'Red China' - spider lily
Narcissus 'Avalanche', 'Actaea', 'Sweetness' - daffodils
Penstemon 'Husker Red' – beard-tougue
Phlox subulata – mountain phlox
Rhynchospora colorata – white-topped star sedge.
Rudbeckia hirta, subtomentosa, grandiflora, fulgida, maxima, etc.– blackeyed Susan (annuals and perennials)
Salvia microphylla 'Hot Lips' – salvia
Silene regia – royal catchfly
Sisyrinchium angustifolium 'Lucerne' – blue-eyed grass
Verbena bonariensis - vervain

Herbaceous Perennials – Shade

Arisaema sikokianum- Japanese jack-in-the-pulpit
Aruncus 'Horatio' – hybrid goat's beard
Arundinaria tecta – canebrake, good for wet areas, but spreads.
Asarum spp. – wild ginger
Amorphophallus konjac – Konjac Voodoo lily
Bletilla striata – Chinese ground orchid
Epimedium sp. - fairy wings
Helleborus spp. – hellebores
Liriope platyphylla 'Korean Giant' – wide-leaf monkey grass
Pachysandra procumbens - Allegheny spurge
Polygonatum odoratum 'Variegatum' - Solomon seal
Rhodolea japonica – sacred lily
Sarcococca hookeriana var. *humilis* - sweetbox
Shortia galacifolia – Oconee bells
Spigelia marilandica – Indian pink
Tricyrtis – toad lily

Shrubs

Amorpha canescens – leadplant, indigo
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi- bearberry
Buddleia Low and Behold™ ‘Blue Chip’, ‘Pink Micro Chip’ – dwarf butterfly bushes
Buddleia ‘Miss Ruby’ - butterfly bush
Calycanthus ‘Aphrodite’ – hybrid sweetshrub
Chaenomeles ‘Scarlet Storm’, Pink Storm, Orange Storm- Double Take™ flowering quince
Comptonia peregrina – sweet fern
Edgeworthia papyrifera – Chinese paper bush – A Hunter Stubbs favorite
Erica × *darleyensis* ‘Furzey’ – heaths
Exochorda ‘Blizzard’ – pearl bush
Fothergilla × *intermedia* – hybrid fothergilla
Hamamelis × *intermedia* ‘Aphrodite’ – witchhazel
Hydrangea arborescens Invincibelle™ Garnetta®, Spirit II, Mini Mauvette®, Limetta®, Wee White® – mountain hydrangea
Hydrangea arborescens Incrediball® Blush – mountain hydrangeas
Hydrangea quercifolia – oakleaf hydrangea
Illicium sp. ‘Scorpio’, ‘Orion’, ‘Swamp Hobbit’
Kalmia latifolia var. *myrtifolia* ‘Tinkerbelle’ – dwarf mountain laurel
Parrotiopsis jacquemontiana - Parrotiopsis
Pieris japonica var. *yakushimanum* ‘Cavatine’ – dwarf pieris
Rhododendron hyperythrum hybrids: ‘Peppermint Twist’, ‘Charles Loomis’, ‘Tyler Morris’, ‘Brandi’, ‘Breezy’, ‘Radiance’. Heat tolerant and *Phytophthora* resistant rhododendrons
Rhododendron spp.: *R. vaseyi*, ‘Glory Be’, ‘Red Pepper’, ‘Spring Fandango’ – deciduous azaleas
Salix humilis var. *microphylla* – dwarf prairie willow
Spiraea Doozie™- everblooming spiraea.
Vaccinium ‘Sunshine Blue’ - blueberries

Trees

Acer saccharum – sugar maple
Acer griseum – paperbark maple
Chionanthus virginicus ‘White Knight’ – dwarf fringtree
Cornus elliptica (*angustata*) Lucky Leprechuan™ – evergreen dogwoods
Halesia diptera and *tetraptera* - silverbells
Magnolia macrophylla subsp. *ashei* – Ashe’s magnolia
Magnolia sieboldii ‘Colossus’- oyama magnolia
Stewartia ovata – mountain stewartia
Stewartia pseudocamellia – Japanese stewartia
Oxydendrum arboreum - sourwood
Xanthoceras sorbifolia - yellowhorn

Conifers

Abies koreana – Korean fir
Abies nordmanniana – Turkish fir
Abies koreana ‘Horstmann’s Silberlocke’ grafted on *Abies firma*.

Pinus densiflora ‘Low Glow’
Pinus thunbergii ‘Yatsubusa’ - dwarf Japanese black pine
Pinus heldreichii var. *leucodermis* ‘Emerald Arrow’ – Bosnian pine

Vines

Bignonia capreolata – crossvine
Clematis ‘Roguchi’ - hybrid clematis
Decumaria barbara – woodvamp
Hydrangea anomala ssp. *petiolaris* – climbing hydrangea
Vigna caracalla - snail vine, annual, a Hunter Stubbs favorite.

Key References

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