

BAKERS' ACRES

Spring Open House is March 27th-29th

WE WILL BE OPEN EACH DAY FROM 9-5

Come out and check out what is growing for the Spring. It will be a great way to inspire you to get started. Our pansies will be in bloom, herbs will be ready for your windowsills and all of our **seeds** will be on sale for **20% off**. During this weekend we will have a selection of starter herbs on sale **3/\$5.99**. So come on out and get a taste of Spring!

ISSUE 1 - MARCH 2015

New Shrubs and Roses for 2015

I will feature only a few new varieties this year. But I am very excited about the ones we were able to get.

Buddleia Lo and Behold –these new Proven Winner varieties will only get 2-3 feet tall and wide and will continuously bloom all summer and will get rid of it's own seed heads without pruning.

Rhododendron x yakusimanum 'Ken Janek' – Although these compact low growing rhodos have beautiful pale pink flowers, their biggest attraction is the thick cover of fawn indumentum (fuzz) on the lower leaf surface.

Rose 'All Above' – this large flowering climber has a fruity fragrance, high level of disease resistance and is a continuous bloomer. Plus it is a lovely old fashioned salmon orange color.

Rose 'Anna's Promise' – I am a big fan of Downton Abbey so I could not resist getting this rose named after Anna Bates. This fragrant grandiflora rose has golden petals with a pink blush. This would be a great cut flower to decorate with at your English Teas.



Newsletters will now be published in Mar., April, May, June, Sept. and Oct.

If you would like to receive this via email let us know at info@bakersacres.net

NEW PERENNIALS FOR 2015

Wow it is hard to believe we are getting ready to start a new season. I have added about 30 new perennials to my list. Here are just a few to get the juices rolling. **Cimicifuga 'Black Negligee'** – Grows 50-60" tall has the darkest foliage to date. **Echinacea 'Doppeldecker'** – grows 24" tall. Purple flowers and a second layer of purple petals forms on the top of the cone. **Echinacea 'Green Envy'** – Grows 30" tall. Broad lime-



green petals flushed red towards the base around a green cone. **Helianthus 'Tie Dye'** (*shown above*) – Grows 32" tall. This bi-colored variety has daisy-like flowers with yellow(front) and purple-pink(back) petals. **Helleborus 'Midnight Ruffles'** – Grows 18-22" tall. It is a Lenten Rose. Rare double black selection. 3" black velvet flowers with contrasting yellow stamens. **Primula 'Blue Zebra'** – Grows 6"



tall. Blue Zebra has perfectly striped bright blue and white flowers. **Salvia pratensis 'Madeline'** – Grows 15" tall. Has many bi-color blue-white flowers on every stem. Flowers May – Oct. **Tradescantia callisia rosea 'Morning Grace'** (*shown left*) – A dwarf spiderwort only 6-10" tall. Has beautiful light lavender flowers. Flowers late summer to fall. Hope this gets you thinking about spring. Check out the perennial list online to see what else is new. Just look for an * by the name to know it is new.

1104 AUBURN RD. (RTE. 34)
N. LANSING, GROTON, N.Y. 13073
(607) 533-4653

www.bakersacres.net

We are located on Rte. 34 between Ithaca and Auburn



RAE'S ROOST NATURE SHOP

Celebrates.....SPRING!!!!

CONGRATULATIONS to all of you who helped wildlife survive the *brutal* winter of 2014 / 2015!!! When I saw my deer eating blue spruce (YUP!) in my back lawn, I knew how bad it had been. KEEP UP FEEDING YOUR BIRDS, because seed eaters will have awhile before new seeds emerge. Here are some tidbits from "The Roost"!

☞ This Jan. - March, I began running Saturday Specials. It seemed to make many of you smile, so I will keep that up! WATCH my website, call me or pick up a list every month for specials. Could be seed, feeders, ornaments, games....☺!

☺ READ THIS!!!!

If you have never stopped by my shop....why not? My customers say my prices are so reasonable and that I always seem to have something unique as a gift item. To get you "newbies" to give us a try, I'll make you a deal. On Saturdays during April (10 A.M. to 3 P.M.), I will pay you to drive here!!! With any purchase of \$5 or more, just say, "A gallon, please!", and I will give you \$3 to pay for your gas!! What a deal!!!!

☞ I LOVE doing presentations for ANY age group on a variety of nature topics!! Great ideas for bridal showers, birthday parties, garden clubs...just get in touch!

MY HOURS:

Through March, Fridays 10-4

Saturdays 10-3

April-Oct., Th. & Fri. 10-4 & Sat. 10 to 3

REMEMBER that Bakers' Acres staff

will help you if I am M.I.A. !!

Jack, Sunny, and now Baxter

As many of you know, we lost Coe to the road over Christmas. No one has mourned more than Baxter. Baxter belongs to Cathy but comes down to see us everyday. The cats have gotten use to him and are learning to ignore him. Hopefully Mrs. Baker will be getting a new dog to entertain Baxter.

UPCOMING DATES:

APRIL 24-26 • Arbor Day Weekend @ Bakers'

MAY 1-3 • Geranium Weekend @ Bakers'

MAY 2 • May Day Festival @ Bakers' 11-4

MAY 8-10 • MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND @ Bakers'

MAY 16 • Cornell Coop. Ext. Plant Sale

New Special Annuals for 2015

I tried very hard this year to keep my addiction to new and exciting specialty annuals to a minimum. It sort of worked. It must be the SAA (Special Annual Anonymous) meetings were helpful. So here are a few of the new additions.

Caladium Red Bellied Tree Frog – great for the shade and gorgeous in shade containers.

Calathea Rattlesnake and Silhouette – Cathy and I saw these at a conference in DC and fell in love. You will too. Also great color and texture for shade.

Colocasia Madeira – Velvet Black leaf Elephant Ear that gets 2-3 ft tall. Good in sun containers.

Impatiens Sunpatiens – These landscape impatiens are resistant to powdery mildew and get 2-3 ft tall and wide. Wonderful for a border in a sunny or shady location.

Ophiopogon Nana- This black Mondo grass only gets 4-6" tall and is a wonderful accent for a sunny container.

Thunbergia Samantha – For those of you that love the Black-eyed Susan vine will love this new deep blue flowered version.

Of course there are a lot more additions that I did not mention including new succulents and faerie garden plants. This way I do not have to confess to all of the new additions.

New Edibles for 2015

For the last few years we have noticed that all of you are very interested in growing your own food and appreciate that our vegetables and herbs are grown organically. We use organic soilless mix, organic fertilizer, and use bio control (beneficial insects) as our pest control. Although we do not want any chemicals to come in contact with our edible plants, and we do not want to work in greenhouses that have been sprayed with chemicals, also we are very much aware of the decline of butterflies and bees. Not only do we attract bees and butterflies to our gardens and greenhouses, but we are surrounded by our apple orchards, where it is critical that we maintain a healthy bee population. Bees that feed on our blooms in the greenhouses must be healthy and not exposed to pesticides when they return to the hives. So for almost any reason I can think of, we love the help we receive from IPM Labs in Locke and NYS IPM to keep our plants safe from pesticides. I will not say safe from insects, because after all those beneficial insects that eat the plant destroying insects or pollinate our flowers are very welcome. We are also proud to say that Cornell Bee study has found many different varieties of native bees in our orchard.

So we continue to grow more vegetable and herb varieties. This year we have added green beans and peas to our list, and a new vegetable to me, called **kalette**. This is a cross of a kale and brussel sprouts. So instead of Brussel sprouts growing up the stem, there are baby heads of kale. Yummmmm. But the most exciting is that although we have offered an heirloom tomato called Mr. Strikey in the past that is moderately resistant to Late Blight, this year we will also offer **Mountain Merit** which is a large sized red tomato that is resistant to late blight.

I will also add to this section that we are also offering a new fruit that is in the honeysuckle family. It is called **Honeyberry** and the variety is 'Honey Bee'. The fruit looks similar to blueberries but a much different flavor. It is full of antioxidants and Vitamin C. the berries can be eaten fresh or used in jams or desserts. A lot of you have asked for **Paw Paw** fruit trees because Cornell has done so much research on them and the custard like fruit is delicious. So I was able to get some in that will get about 20 feet tall. They are a Zone 5 fruit tree.