

The Azalea Clipper

New Look

After 30 years publishing the Clipper, Phil and Frances Louer have let go of the reins of the Azalea Clipper. We thank them for their years of providing information to our Chapter members.

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING:

17 OCT 1:30PM
POHICK REGIONAL
LIBRARY, 6450
SYDENSTRICKER
RD, BURKE, VA

(DIRECTIONS ON
PAGE 3)

REFRESHMENT
DUTY – MEMBERS
WHOSE NAMES
BEGIN WITH A
THROUGH K

Mark your calendars:

The December chapter meeting will be the annual Holiday Social Meeting to be held at 1:30 pm on 5 December at the home of Carolyn and Paul Beck.

Holly Springs Azaleas and Plant Exchange

On 17 October, the chapter meeting will be held at the Pohick Regional Library in Burke at 1:30 pm. Rick Bauer will give a presentation on Pete Vines' Holly Springs Azaleas.

We will also have a plant exchange. Members are asked to bring plants to share with other members. Please ensure your plants are marked with the name of the plant at a minimum. Additional information on the



plants, such as a picture of the plant in bloom, bloom time, care of the plant etc. would also be useful, if available.

Azalea Auction

The Chapter held its Third Annual Public Auction on 12 September at the Merrifield Garden Center in Gainesville. This year's auction included a large variety of plants for auction and sale. For the first time we also conducted a silent auction. This was conducted during the initial period while participants were arriving, looking at the azaleas available for sale and auction.

The silent auction was followed by the live auction. Bob Harrison once again filled the role of auctioneer. Anyone who has seen Bob knows he not only does a great job at getting the best prices for the azaleas, but

he also makes the auction an entertaining experience.

The auction was successful, netting over \$1100 for the chapter. Many thanks to Carolyn Beck for all of her work in orchestrating the auction and to all the chapter members who helped in making the event a huge success.



From the President

Greetings Everyone!

It is such a pleasure to write to you knowing everyone has had enough rain for a while. The drought-ridden past 6 weeks have been the most difficult of my gardening experience so to have 7.5" of tropical rain is just fine. No flooding up *here* on the ridge!

I'm happy to report that our third public auction was a terrific success! It was held at the new Merrifield Gainesville location and we were much more visible to the public. We got several more interested folks who came during the Silent Auction period and purchased a good number of the set-price azalea offerings and stayed on for the public aspect. Carolyn Beck just steered this auction ship with new ideas that proved quite successful and with the help of her husband, Paul, they provided weeks of pre-auction labor (sorting plants, pricing and trailering them to Gainesville, along with gallons of her special iced tea and wonderful treats!) Many members really helped to make it successful. We received a large variety of plants from Larry Martin, Bob Stewart, Joe Klimavicz, Dan Krabill, Bob and Eve Harrison, Dave and Patsy Meadows and Paul and Carolyn Beck. Kathy Andrews helped collect pictures and descriptions for many of the plants. Lee McElvain and Lars Larson led advertising efforts including signs and flyers (given out

weeks earlier at the Merrifield locations) and notices sent to various horticultural groups.

A good number of members showed up to physically help with set up and tear down and to help during the auction, including Dave and Patsy Meadows, Barry Sperling, Milbrey and Larry Martin, Phyllis Rittman, Carolyn's sister, Beverly, Rod and Mary Hoioos and many more. Delivering plants to buyers was great sport for me!

Our auction has many draws for everyone including very reasonable set-priced plants, lots of variety, a silent auction (I came away with a prized Klimavicz new-comer) and extremely funny and entertaining live auction plus a huge snack table. Sometimes I think we should charge admission because Don Hyatt with his great visual show of each plant, and Bob Harrison's spontaneous humor kept everyone laughing all afternoon. Those two play off each other as if they rehearsed it. For the first time, Rick Bauer and Paul Beck maintained an automated tracking of bids. This greatly facilitated the final tally at the end of the auction. Thanks to all of you who made this huge effort successful and full of humor plus we all got lots of great plants.

The executive committee will be meeting on Oct. 31 to lay plans for the chapter's approval of

projects that we might fund with some of the money from sales and auctions. I've heard some very interesting ideas so far and look forward to getting approval for setting them in motion. The committee will also discuss a slate of officers for the coming year, set a budget and schedule and generally tie up loose ends.

I'm happy to say that some of our new members have begun coming to meetings/ events and are seeing what a unique group of friends gather to enjoy each other's company and talk gardening. I've overheard a couple of people say that they've never seen a group so happy to be together and friendly towards visitors and new members. So you have another opportunity to come meet fellow gardens, bring your questions, plan to enjoy a great reprise of our '09 convention and snack along from the table. Everyone new who attends can expect to receive a free azalea, which is always such fun!

Have a delightful, cool fall and just enjoy this brand new season.

Eve

The Azalea Clipper is published bi-monthly by the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Azalea Society of America. The officers of the Chapter are:

President	Eve Harrison
Vice President	Rick Bauer
Secretary	Leslie Nanney
Treasurer	Phyllis Rittman
Corresponding Secretary	Open

News items may be provided to Rick Bauer

We're on the Web!

<http://www.nv-asa.org/>

The Northern Virginia Chapter web site is a great source for late breaking news, such as weather related cancellations.

Directions to Pohick Regional Library

From Fairfax County Parkway, take Old Keene Mill Road east past Lee Chapel Road and Burke Town Center. Turn right on Sydenstricker Road. Library is on the right.

From the Beltway and I-95 take the Springfield exit and stay on Old Keene Mill Road for about 4 ½ miles. Cross Rolling Road past Rolling Valley Mall on right to Sydenstricker Road on left. Turn left on Sydenstricker Road to library.

Come and Get It!

This is a new feature in the Clipper which allows members to identify items they have available to provide to other members or for members to solicit others for items. Items available and items needed must be available at no cost and should be submitted to the Corresponding Secretary including a description of the item(s) available or desired, as

well as the name, phone number and email (if available) of the submitter.

Pachysandra/Lily of the Valley – if you are interested in Pachysandra or Lily of the Valley, contact Barry Sperling.