

## **Oct 18 Message to Members**

Chapter Members,

I want to start this newsletter with some good news. Most of you know that we held an Azaleas 101 workshop before our annual convention in Little Rock, AR last spring. Part of the registration fees were used to purchase society memberships for the attendees. This resulted in over 70 new members for the **Azalea Society of America (ASA)**. Chapter member **Ronnie Palmer** and other ASA members in Arkansas recently established the **Arkansas Chapter of the ASA**, with **Ronnie** elected as their first president. We are happy that **Ronnie** and **Donna** will remain associate members of the **Northern Virginia Chapter** and want to congratulate them and all members of the newest chapter in the society.

## **Azalea Chapter, ARS Meeting 22 Sep**

Last week **Susan** and I went to the Atlanta, Georgia area where I had the pleasure of speaking to the **Azalea Chapter** of the **American Rhododendron Society (ARS)**. My talk was on the **Legacy Project** and my audience included a number of hybridizers/collectors, including **Earl Summerville** whose collection of deciduous azaleas is included in the **Legacy Project**. I was happy to see chapter members and associate members **Joe Coleman** and **Charlie Andrews** and meet **David Prado** who is now a chapter member. The **Azalea Chapter** has a number of members of the **ASA** who are already heavily involved in the **Legacy Project**. I was pleased with the interest shown in the project and with the possibility of more hybrid groups being included and more public **Legacy Gardens** being established.

## **Fall Auction/Plant Sale – 29 Sep**

This past weekend we had our most successful annual chapter azalea sale/auction to date. It was great seeing the large number of members who showed up to set up, conduct, participate in and tear down the event. It is a lot of work and couldn't have been done without the help of many chapter members. Thanks to **Joanne Neckel** for coordinating the enlisting of volunteers and to **Ralph Habegger** for coordinating the onsite set up of the plant sale.

This would not have been possible without the generosity of **Kirkwood Presbyterian Church** in providing their hall and grounds for the conduct of the event. Many thanks also to **Lars Larson** who is responsible for coordinating with the church as well as ensuring that we are good guests and leave the facility in the same condition we found it.



Members helping with the auction/sale set up: (l to r) Paul Beck, Lars Larson, Susan Bauer, Carolyn Beck, Patsy Meadows, Joanne Neckel, Fred Newlan, Dan Neckel, Robert Thau, Leslie Nanney, Ralph Habegger and David Meadows. Missing from the photo: Rick Bauer and David Nanney

Chapter associate member (and president of the **Texas Chapter**) **Robert Thau** made the trip from Jasper, TX to help with the auction/sale. He also went home with a trailer full of azaleas from the event, as well as from **Mike** and **Debbie White's** nursery. Many thanks also to **Mike** and **Debbie** for the beautiful plants they donated to the chapter for this event.

**Don Hyatt** served as auctioneer and had another stellar performance with his knowledge of the cultivars and his sense of humor! Thanks to **Patsy Meadows** for doing an outstanding job of providing refreshments and to **Susan Bauer** for serving as cashier.

**David Taylor** helped set up and verify the azaleas for the live auction. **Ralph Habegger** and **David Meadows** got a real workout delivering plants to the winning bidders. We also appreciate all of the folks (including non-members from the general public) who attended the auction and helped make it such a lively and successful event.

Chapter members **Roy** and **Elizabeth Cosby** in Rockville, VA, were our largest customers in the fixed price sale, purchasing 115 plants. The **Cosbys** continue to be strong supporters of the chapter and the azalea community. They have established a number of **Legacy Gardens** on their property along with maintaining a large collection of other azaleas. They have generously given their property to the **Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden** where it is now referred to as the **Lewis Ginter Nature Reserve**.

Finally, a huge amount of thanks go to **Paul** and **Carolyn Beck** for all of the work they did in propagation, raising plants to sale size, maintaining inventories, preparing the plant sale website, developing the software for point of sale, cashiering, tracking bids etc. etc. etc. They continue to make the type of contributions which earned them the society's **Distinguished Service Award**.

### **Klimavicz Legacy Garden Workday 10 October 9:30 - ? (Rain date 11 Oct) (added)**

As most of you know, we have been meeting with **Meadowlark Gardens** over the past year to plan the establishment of a **Legacy Garden** of **Joe Klimavicz** azaleas. We have completed a Memorandum of Agreement with the garden, the design has been laid out, the planting plot established and the plants procured. Thanks to our past president, **Barbara Kirkwood**, for all of her coordination efforts before she moved to Australia and to **Carolyn Beck** for continuing the process upon **Barbara's** departure.

The time has come to make the garden a reality. We're hoping to have a large number of volunteers at **Meadowlark Gardens**, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna, VA 22182 on 10 October to plant the **Klimavicz** azaleas. Members should wear their gardening clothes, however all tools and other garden supplies will be provided. Members will meet in the Visitor's Center main lobby at 9:30. In case of inclement weather, the planting will be on 11 Oct. If you are able to participate or have questions, please contact **Carolyn Beck** at [carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com) or (703) 860-5676.

### **Ben Morrison Chapter Luncheon and Plant Auction – 10 Oct 12 noon (added)**

If you are unable to assist with the **Meadowlark** planting, the **Ben Morrison Chapter** has invited our members to join them for a luncheon and plant sale at the Hellas Restaurant, 8498 Veterans Highway, Millersville, Maryland 21108 on 10 October at noon.

Please let **Budne Reinke** ([budne@aol.com](mailto:budne@aol.com) or (301) 946-4815 (Home)/(301) 943-4357(Cell)) know if you can attend and if you have any plants (any type) to donate for the auction. (Bringing a plant is optional.)

**Chapter Meeting October 28 1-5 pm**



Bremen Rhododendron Garden

In my June message, I talked about the ARS convention in Bremen, Germany and the follow-on tour to Finland. **Don Hyatt** and I will be giving talks on both of these events at the October meeting. A number of our chapter members participated in this “once in a lifetime” event along with a large number of other ASA members.

We’re looking forward to sharing our pictures of some beautiful gardens in Germany and Finland. We hope you will be able to join us. More information will be in the upcoming issue of ***The Azalea Clipper***.

**New Members**

We’d like to welcome **David Prado** to the chapter. **David** lives in Cummings, Georgia and was previously an at large member. I have been in communication with him over the past several months and he has a lot of good ideas for moving the society forward. I was able to meet him in person when I spoke to the **Azalea Chapter** of the **ARS** in Roswell, Georgia. I’m pleased that he agreed to be affiliated with our chapter.

We’d also like to welcome **Chip Benjamin** and **Doug Pulak** who were active participants in our recent auction and enjoyed it so much they joined the chapter! **Chip** and **Doug** are from Arlington, Va.

**Calendar of Upcoming Events:**

Below is the schedule for 2018. As always, events will be added (and rarely deleted) throughout the year:

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Oct 10 9:30-? Rain date 11 Oct <b>(Added)</b>	Klimavicz Garden Planting	NV-ASA	Meadowlark Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna, VA 22182
Oct 10 Noon - ? <b>(Added)</b>	Luncheon and plant auction	Ben Morrison - ASA	Hellas Restaurant, 8498 Veterans Highway, Millersville, Maryland 21108
Oct 28 1-5 pm	Fall Meeting Don Hyatt – Bremen Convention Rick Bauer- Finland post tour	NV-ASA	<a href="#">Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA</a>
Oct 28 <b>Changed</b>	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	<a href="#">Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA</a>
Dec 9	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	Beck’s Home

## Other Activities/Notes –

### Miscellaneous –

#### **(ADDED) Azalea Clipper input – 12 October**

If you have any input for the next **Azalea Clipper**, please provide it to Barry ([bsperling@cox.net](mailto:bsperling@cox.net)) no later than 12 October.

#### **Note on NV-ASA website security:**

Recently, Google has started to require secure connections for those using its **Chrome** browser. It is anticipated that other browsers will follow suit shortly. In order to comply with this new security requirement, we have purchased a security certificate for the chapter website. You may encounter a security message warning that the connection is not secure when attempting to access our website. If you do, please insert the characters "https://" at the start of the URL. For example, put the full address "<https://www.nv-asa.org>" or the abbreviated one "<https://nv-asa.org>" in your browser. After a few accesses, your browser should remember that you are using a secure connection, and the "https://" may no longer be required.

**Photos for The Azalea Clipper/Facebook – Barry** is looking for pictures of your garden to share with other members on our chapter **Facebook** page and in the **Clipper**. Now is the time to show off a little. Send your pictures to **Barry** at [bsperling@cox.net](mailto:bsperling@cox.net).

We are also always looking for articles for **The Azalea Clipper**. They don't have to be long and can be on any azalea related subject (e.g., gardens (public or private), hybridizers, companion plants etc.). Pictures are also always appreciated. Please consider writing an article. Contact **Barry** if you have any questions [bsperling@cox.net](mailto:bsperling@cox.net) or 703-765-7062. **Clipper** articles can also be the basis for later submissions to **The Azalean** (see below).

**The Azalean** – The editors of **The Azalean** depend on member submissions of articles of interest to the general **ASA** membership. If you have an article to share, send it to them at [theazalean@gmail.com](mailto:theazalean@gmail.com). Articles should be submitted as Microsoft Word documents. Illustrations are highly encouraged and should be at least 4 x 6 inches at 300 dpi.

**Speakers** – We continue to strive to provide speakers on topics of interest to our members. If you have heard, or are otherwise aware of, speakers who might be of interest to our chapter, please contact **Lars Larson** at [lars.larson@cox.net](mailto:lars.larson@cox.net) or (703) 277-3441.

It was great seeing many of you at the sale and auction last weekend. Thanks to all of you who volunteered. I hope to see many of you at **Meadowlark Gardens** and at our meeting the end of October.

Rick