

Dec 18 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

We've reached the end of another successful year for the chapter. Our final scheduled event for the year is the Holiday Social and Annual Meeting on 9 December at the home of **Paul** and **Carolyn Beck**. This is always a great event and is an important one since it is also our major business meeting of the year. We will be voting to approve the budget, elect officers for next year and make decision on donations to make for 2018. All the necessary information is in the recent "**Not the Clipper**" which was sent out a couple of weeks ago. There is one addition to the information previously provided....**Diane Marcus** has volunteered to serve as vice president. Thanks to her and all who have volunteered for leadership positions in the chapter.



Texas Forest Country Chapter

I also wanted to recognize associate member **Robert Thau**. **Robert** was most recently president of the Texas Chapter. He was so successful at promoting azaleas in his hometown of Jasper and in getting new members for the society that he was able to start a new chapter. He also was instrumental in Jasper being designated an "Azalea City." The society recently approved the formation of the **Texas Forest Country Chapter** with **Robert** as its first president. The chapter has a great start with 25 members. They also have a great relationship with the Master Gardeners, Chamber of Commerce and city officials and already are embarking upon a state funded beautification project (with azaleas of course!) in Jasper. Congratulations!

New Members

We'd like to welcome **Norm** and **Jean Beaudry** of Bethesda, Maryland to the society and the Northern Virginia Chapter (NoVA). Many of us know them from the American Rhododendron Society (ARS) and joint meetings we have held with the Potomac Valley Chapter (PVC) of the ARS. **Norm** spoke to a joint meeting of the PVC and NoVA several years ago. Some of us have copies of August to Frost (Beaudry Sport) in our gardens. We look forward to officially welcoming them at a future chapter event.

Membership Renewal

The time has come to renew memberships for 2019. Everyone whose membership expires in 2018 should have already received a reminder to renew. Any renewals received by 8 December are eligible for a lottery which will award three one year memberships in the society.

Fall Issue of *The Azalean*

There was a mailing list mix up with the publisher of *The Azalean* which resulted in some newer society members not receiving their Fall issues. The problem has been corrected and the late issues were mailed on Monday. Hopefully you will receive them soon if you haven't already.

Klimavicz Legacy Garden Workday

Unfortunately the scheduled workday to plant azaleas at Meadowlark Gardens had to be postponed due to non-availability of the senior horticulturist at Meadowlark. It is now too late to do the plantings this year so the plants have been configured to overwinter at Meadowlark Gardens. We will reschedule the planting for Spring 2019.

ASA National Convention – Summerville, SC 14-16 March

While it seems far off, the next ASA convention will be here before you know it. The last time we were in the Charleston area, we saw some beautiful gardens, though we were a little early for peak blooms. I'm looking forward to visiting some of these gardens again...hopefully with Mother Nature cooperating this time.

Convention registration is already underway. You can register by using the form in the Fall ***Azalean*** or by going to the ASA website and clicking on About the Society>Conventions. This will give you more information on the convention as well as the registration form. If you've been to a convention before, you know they are a great time. If not, I encourage you to attend the next convention in Summerville.

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
Dec 9	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	Beck's Home

Below is the schedule for 2019.

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Mar 1-2	North Carolina Nursery Plant Trip	ARS MAC/PVC;NV-ASA	Various
Mar 14-16	ASA Convention	ASA	Summerville, SC
Mar 31	Joint Meeting with Speaker Charlie Andrews	NV-ASA/PVC-ARS	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Apr TBD	Potting Party	NV-ASA	Beck House
Apr 27-28	Member Open Gardens	NV-ASA	Various
May 4-5	Member Open Gardens	NV-ASA	Various
May 11 Tentative	Plant sale in Vienna	NV-ASA	Ayr Hill Garden Club
May 18	Green Spring Gardens Plant sale	NV-ASA	Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria, VA
May 16-19	ARS Convention	ARS	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Jul 14	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA

Sep 28	Fall Sale and Auction	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Oct 27	Meeting with Speaker	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Oct TBD	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD
Dec 8	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	TBD

Other Activities/Notes –

Miscellaneous –

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.

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 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. 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 or (703) 277-3441.

I hope to see you at the Holiday Social in December at **Paul and Carolyn Beck's** home. I wish you all a happy holiday season.

Rick