

July 2014 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

I was hoping to be able to report on the Smoky Mountain trip, however due to a change in schedule and less than ideal conditions for **Gregory Bald**, I was unable to make the trip this year. I am including a link to the **Great Smoky Mountains'** site where they have some pictures of [Gregory Bald](#) posted. I know the folks who made the trip had a good time. We hope to have an article on the trip in a future **Azalea Clipper**.

Our next chapter activity is the annual cutting exchange. This year it will be at the home of **Paul and Carolyn Beck**. This is a good opportunity to share cuttings of your favorite azaleas with chapter members. It also supports our efforts with the **Legacy Project** and our preparations for the plant sales at the [2016 ASA-ARS Convention in Williamsburg](#). More information is located in this month's [Azalea Clipper](#).

Most of you know that we have a **Facebook** page. We're trying to use it to bring more attention to our chapter and gain more members. Hopefully you have "Liked" it so that your **Facebook** friends will see it also. Besides publishing our activities, we need to get more content on our page. If you have any interesting pictures of azaleas or gardens (especially your own) to post on our **Facebook** page, please send them to **Barry Sperling** at bsperling@cox.net.

Finally I'd like to welcome two new members to our chapter. **John Stone** lives in Annapolis, MD and **John Stamatokos** lives in Potomac. We hope to welcome them personally at an upcoming chapter function.

Below are upcoming chapter activities:

Cutting Exchange 20 Jul - The annual cutting exchange will be held at **Paul and Carolyn Beck's** house on 20 Jul. More information is included in the latest [Clipper](#). Hopefully you have this on your calendar and will be joining us.

PVC-ARS Meeting 7 Sep - The **Potomac Valley Chapter** of the **ARS** has invited our members to attend their 7 September meeting at 1 pm at the [Potomac Community Center](#). The speaker will be **Karen Rexrode** who will be speaking on ***Plant Explorers***. You may remember **Karen** from when she spoke to our chapter in March 2011 on ***Garden Flow***. Make sure you put this on your calendar.

Public Azalea Sale and Auction 20 Sep - Our annual sale and auction will be conducted again this year at the **Kirkwood Presbyterian Church** in Springfield. We are going to focus more on the plant sale portion of the event to try and cater to members of the general public. The auction will be open to the general public also, but will be aimed at chapter members. More information will be published as we get closer to the event.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Schedule for 2014 – Below is the calendar for the remainder of this year:

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Jul 20	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	Paul and Carolyn Beck's
Sep 7 - 1pm	PVC Meeting – NoVA ASA members invited Speaker: Karen	PVC-ARS	Potomac Community Center

Date	Event	Organization	Location
	Rexrode on "Plant Explorers"		
Sep 20	Public Azalea Sale and Auction	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church , Springfield, VA
Oct 11	Joint luncheon meeting w/ ARS – Speaker: Harold Greer	NV-ASA/ARS	Wildfire Restaurant , Tyson's II
Oct 26	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD
Dec 7	Holiday Social/Annual Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD

Other Activities/Notes –

Legacy Project –

I have spoken about the **Legacy Project** for several months and an article on the project was recently published in **The Azalean**. If anyone would like more information on becoming a "**Legacy Lead**" or otherwise participating in this project, visit our [Legacy website](#) or [contact me](#).

ASA-ARS Convention 2016 –

Plans for the joint **2016 ASA-ARS Convention** continue to take shape. We are in the process of finalizing the gardens to be visited as well as the speakers. We think that the **Williamsburg** location will provide a lot of opportunities to enjoy historic and recreational venues in addition to the full schedule of events as part of the convention.

Legacy Hybridizers will be featured (along with other special azaleas). **Carolyn Beck** has volunteered to coordinate the chapter efforts in identifying, propagating and raising azaleas for the convention. Currently the focus is on identifying the cultivars we want to propagate. **Carolyn** would like suggestions from everyone.

We would like as many of our group to participate in the chapter's efforts to provide 2000 plants. There is a wide range of activities...hopefully something for everyone. If you can help with any of the activities on the [linked list](#), please contact **Carolyn**.

Miscellaneous –

The Azalean – I hope you agree with me that the new editors of **The Azalean** are doing a great job. They 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 **Paul Davis** at padavisjr@aol.com or 703-408-7080.

Nurseries – A number of our members own nurseries or otherwise propagate azaleas for sale to the general public. A list of these members and their nurseries is located on our website at [Member Nurseries](#).

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming cutting exchange on the 20th.

Rick