

Aug 2014 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

I'm a little late this month in sending out this email. I was able to link up with **Don Hyatt** and **Landon Davis** last week to visit the garden of **Junko Liesfeld**. **Junko** has a beautiful Japanese garden outside of **Richmond**. While not an azalea garden per se, she has a large number of azaleas and rhododendron. She has graciously opened her garden for the 2016 convention. While we were in the neighborhood, **Don** and I visited **Elizabeth** and **Madeline Cosby**. Their garden will also be on the 2016 garden tours.



It was great to see the large turnout at the **Beck's** on 20 Jul for the annual cutting exchange. We had 29 members and guests present. The selection of food was outstanding as was the selection of cuttings available for our members. As a special treat, **Joe Klimavicz** brought cuttings of all of his named varieties. **Carolyn** provided a primer on putting cuttings. We thank **Paul** and **Carolyn** for hosting the exchange once again.



We're pleased to welcome **Barbara** and **John Kirkwood** to the **Northern Virginia Chapter**. Many of you have already met the **Kirkwoods** at the joint meeting with the **PVC** as well as the recent cutting exchange. **Barbara** has also assisted in up-potting rooted azalea cuttings for our future sales. We are happy to have them as members.

We have a number of activities for the remainder of the year:

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. If you are able to help with set up on the 19th or 20th, tear down on the 20th or sales during the event, please contact **Paul Davis** at padavisjr@aol.com or 703-408-7080.

Joint Luncheon and Meeting with Harold Greer 11 Oct - We have the great opportunity to share a delicious meal with members of the **Potomac Valley, Mid-Atlantic and Mason-Dixon Chapters** of the **ARS** as well as the **Ben Morrison Chapter** of the **ASA** at the **Wildfire Restaurant** in **Tysons Corner**. We are especially fortunate to have **Harold Greer** speak to our combined group. **Harold** and his wife **Nancy**, own **Greer Gardens** in **Eugene, Oregon**. He is a past president of the **American Rhododendron Society**, and served on the board of directors for over 25 years. **Harold** has made numerous contributions to the world of rhododendrons and azaleas. He is a noted author and photographer. His pictures have been published in books and publications, including the cover of **Smithsonian Magazine**. This should be an outstanding event and we anticipate a large turnout. More information will be provided 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
Sep 7 - 1pm	PVC Meeting – NoVA ASA members invited Speaker: Karen Rexrode on “Plant Explorers”	PVC-ARS	Potomac Community Center
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 , Tysons II
Oct 26	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD
Dec 7	Holiday Social/Annual Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD

Other Activities/Notes –

September Clipper 30 August -

If you have any input for the September **Azalea Clipper**, please provide it to **Barry** no later than 30 August. Submissions could include requests for plants, offerings of plants, photos that might be included in the **Clipper**, etc.

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](#).

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Rick