

## Sept 2014 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

I hope you had a great August. I was particularly happy to have cooler than normal weather and a decent amount of rain. It sure made it easier for me in watering my plants.

As you are aware, the chapter made some significant [contributions](#) to various horticultural activities last year. One of the contributions was to help fund an intern for the **Margaret White Garden**. The **White Garden** is under the auspices of **Green Spring Gardens** in Alexandria. In their latest newsletter "**Gardenline**," Their manager, **Mary Olien**, posted the following:

**'Interns and Internships Are Valuable'**, "Less than 4 miles from Green Spring Gardens is a shady enclave of rhododendron, azaleas, and camellia known as the White Gardens. **With generous support from the Azalea Society of America, Northern Virginia Chapter**, the White Gardens intern, **Ashlan Smith**, filled our newest intern position."

Our thanks go to all chapter members who work hard to make our fundraisers a success.

Speaking of **Green Spring**, on 13 September, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. they will be having their **Fall Garden Day and Plant Sale**. Among their vendors will be the **Potomac Valley Chapter** of the **American Rhododendron Society**. The proceeds from their sale will go to help support our event on 11 October at **Wildfire Restaurant** when **Harold Greer** will be our guest speaker.

We're pleased to welcome **Pam Morgan, Danny Little** and **Joe Miller** as associate members of the chapter. **Pam** is a friend of **Eve Harrison's** and a member of the **Central Carolina Chapter** of the **ASA**, **Danny** is also a member of **Central Carolina** and **Joe** is a member of the **Ben Morrison Chapter**. Some of you may have met **Joe** at the recent cutting exchange or through the **American Rhododendron Society**.

As we head into the fall, we have a number of interesting activities planned:

**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.

There will be **over 200 varieties** available, representing many, many hybrid groups. Included will be deciduous and evergreen azaleas, rhododendron, and other types of plants; surely something for everyone. Handouts will include a description of each plant, as well as the type of sale/auction it is in.

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 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>, tear down on the 20<sup>th</sup> or sales during the event, please contact **Paul Davis** at [padavisjr@aol.com](mailto:padavisjr@aol.com) or 703-408-7080.

I have attached a copy of the flyer and it is posted on the chapter **Facebook** page. Please share it with your friends and family members. Revenue from events, such as this, enable us to support programs like the **White Garden** intern. You can find additional information on our website ([www.nv-asa.org](http://www.nv-asa.org)).

**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.

**Dave Banks, Don Hyatt** and **Paul Beck** have put together a site which will allow you to either register and pay for the event online, or download a form to send in with your check. The site may be reached from our chapter home page or by clicking [here](#). We expect this event to sell out fast so I recommend you get your reservation in early. Reservations will be accepted until we are completely booked or by **4 October**, whichever occurs first.

This event will also be a great time for the four organizations sponsoring the 2016 Convention to get together. An update on convention planning will be provided to the attendees (information will also be posted on our website after the event). A map showing the location of the **Wildfire Restaurant** is at the hyperlink in the calendar below.

**Calendar of Upcoming Events:**

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Location</b>
Sep 7 - 1pm	PVC Meeting – NoVA ASA members invited  Speaker: Karen Rexrode on "Plant Explorers"	PVC-ARS	<a href="#">Potomac Community Center</a>
Sep 20	Public Azalea Sale and Auction	NV-ASA	<a href="#">Kirkwood Presbyterian Church</a> , Springfield, VA
Oct 11	Joint luncheon meeting w/ ARS – Speaker: Harold Greer	NV-ASA/ARS	<a href="#">Wildfire Restaurant</a> , Tysons II
Oct 26	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Location</b>
Dec 7	Holiday Social/Annual Meeting	NV-ASA	Barbara and John Kirkwood's Home

### **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](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 **Paul Davis** at [padavisjr@aol.com](mailto: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 hope you're able to help us with the upcoming plant sale and auction on 20 September and that you'll be able to attend the dinner at the **Wildfire Restaurant** in October.

Rick