

Dec 2014 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

This is an early edition of the December message. I imagine most of you are in the midst of preparing for Thanksgiving.

I was in **Wilmington, NC** on 7 November, giving a talk to the **Cape Fear Chapter** of the **ASA** on the **Legacy Project** and **Sandra McDonald** azaleas. As I drove into town, the sign identified **Wilmington** as **Azalea City!** It's good that they finally have a chapter in the **ASA**. While the number in attendance was small, they were very active with a lot of good questions. Also of note, many of the attendees were not **ASA** members, but members of other plant societies. Hopefully **Cape Fear** will be able to pick up some new members. I'd like to thank **Matt Hunter** and **Al Hight** for their hospitality.

We're happy to welcome two new members to the chapter. **Frank** and **Regina Duff** live in **Monkton, MD** and are members of the **Mason-Dixon Chapter** of the **American Rhododendron Society**. Some of you may have met them at the **Harold Greer** talk last month. We hope to welcome them in person at an upcoming event.

The chapter was recently the recipient of over 2000 azaleas donated by **Phil Louer**. For those of you who are new to the chapter, **Phil** and **Frances** were founding members of the chapter and were editors of our newsletter, **The Azalea Clipper**, for over 30 years. They collected a large number of different cultivars over the years and have one of the largest private collections I have seen. This gift will provide many plants for sale and propagation stock for varieties which are difficult, if not impossible, to find. It will be invaluable in supporting the **Legacy Project**. These plants are a living legacy of the contributions made by both **Phil** and **Frances** to the chapter and the **ASA**.

On a sadder note, I received word from **Fran Boninti** that **Ian Robertson** passed away. Those members who participated in the **Charlottesville Garden Tours** in 2011 will remember **Ian** for the presentation he provided to us after dinner at the **Boninti** home. **Ian** had an extensive resume in the field of horticulture as stated in his [linked obituary](#). We extend our condolences to his family and friends.

Our last event for the year will be our **Holiday Social/Annual Meeting** on 7 December at the [home](#) of **Barbara** and **John Kirkwood** in **Great Falls**. As usual, this will be a pot luck event. This is also an important event in that we will cover the treasurer's report for the last year, present the 2015 budget for member approval, vote on recipients for chapter donations and vote on officers for next year. More information will appear in the next **Clipper**. The proposed budget may be found on our website under **Financial**. You must be logged in to see the **Financial** selection on the left banner and to access the proposed budget.

The nominees for the elective offices are:

President – **Rick Bauer**
Vice President – **Lars Larson**
Treasurer – **Paul Beck**
Secretary – **Susan Bauer**

Dues Payments - Paul Beck will be taking dues payments at the Holiday Social for those owing dues and would like to pay directly by cash, check or credit card. **Paul** has also enhanced the website to allow you to make your payments online. More information is below:

Membership Renewals:

Your ASA membership needs to be renewed by the end of the year, unless you have a lifetime membership, or you have previously renewed for more than one year. This year, for the first time, we are accepting membership renewals online via our web site. Payment may be made by credit card, debit card, or PayPal account. This requires you to login to view your profile and renew your membership. If you have not already created a login, please Register on the web site. If your membership expires in 2014, there will be a **Renew Membership** button near the bottom of your Profile page, right after the **Year Expires** line. Complete details and instructions are published on the www.nv-asa.org home page. Also, please consider renewing your membership for a level above **Regular**. There are three categories of membership above the Regular that help support the operation of the ASA, **Contributing, Supporting** and **Endowment**. Each has a different renewal amount, and the portion above the Regular membership is fully tax deductible.

As always, you may renew by check mailed to **Paul Beck**, 2963 Fort Lee Street, Oak Hill, VA 20171-1812. Regular dues are \$30 per year, and there are discounts for paying for multiple years (see the web site for details). You may also pay your dues at the holiday party, using cash, credit card, or a check.

National Arboretum Workday 6 Dec - Finally, **Barbara Bullock** will be conducting a Fall Cleanup at the **National Arboretum** on Saturday, 6 December from 10am to 3pm. More information is posted on our website in the [linked flyer](#). Anyone interested in participating will also be required to fill out a copy of the linked [Work Form](#). For more information, contact **Barbara** at barbara.bullock@ars.usda.gov or (202) 245-4511.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

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

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

Schedule for 2015 –

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Mar 8	Chapter meeting with speaker	NV-ASA	TBD (change)
Mar 26-29	ASA Convention	ASA	Nacogdoches, TX
Late Apr/early May	Chapter member garden tours	NV-ASA	Various
May 16	Green Spring Garden plant sale		Green Spring Garden in Alexandria, VA
Jul 19	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	TBD
Sep 26	Azalea Auction	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Oct 17	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD
Oct 18	Chapter meeting with speaker	NV-ASA	TBD
Dec 6	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 a spreadsheet is being created that identifies all the cultivars being grown, as well as the growers.

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 **Lars Larson** at lars.larson@cox.net or 703-277-3441.

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 wish you Happy Holidays and hope you are able to make it to the Holiday Social.

Rick