

Feb 15 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

Earlier this week I was looking out at a cold, white landscape here in Yorktown. I know that our members up north were looking at a lot more snow than we got. At this time of year, I start getting antsy for spring to come. I'm checking the progress of my perennial seedlings daily as well as the azalea cuttings I rooted last summer. I'm ready to get out into the garden. Hopefully **Punxsutawney Phil** will have good news for us this year.

We are about to gear up for the busiest portion of our year. Following are upcoming events:

Chapter Meeting 1 Mar: Our first chapter meeting of the year will be held on Sunday, 1 March at the **Kirkwood Presbyterian Church** at 8336 Carrleigh Parkway, West Springfield. The meeting will start at 1:30 with a social period followed by a presentation. **Mary Olien** from **Green Spring Garden** will be speaking on **Green Spring Garden** and will give us an update on how our contributions to the garden over the past few years are being used.

We will also have our first plant exchange of the year. Members are requested to bring plants they would like to share (not limited to azaleas). This is an excellent opportunity to increase your plant collections and to share your excess plants with other members.

More information on the meeting and instructions for marking your plants will be in the upcoming copy of the **Azalea Clipper**.

Azalea Convention Nacogdoches Texas 26-29 Mar - The **2015 ASA Convention** in Nacogdoches, Texas is fast approaching. **Susan** and I will be attending the convention. I have enjoyed every convention I have attended since 2008. It is a great chance to see different parts of the country, visit with old friends (and make new ones) and enjoy some beautiful azalea gardens. I hope to see you there.

Information on the convention and registration forms is in the latest **Azalean** magazine or on the [convention website](#). If you are interested in attending, I would encourage you to get your registrations in as the registration fee increases on 13 February.

Charlottesville Garden Week Plant Sale 19-20 April- Our chapter will have a stand at the **Garden Week** in Charlottesville this year. We are using this event to bring attention to our chapter, hopefully gain new members, introduce the public to our azaleas...especially Legacy varieties and finally to generate income.

We have requirements for volunteers for the following shifts - 12-5 on 19 April and 9-1 and 1-5 on 20 April.

Volunteers will receive complementary tickets for the **Garden Week** tours in Charlottesville. Anyone interested should contact me at (757) 833-7737 or rickbauer@cox.net.

Update on membership renewal - It's that time of the year again. The membership periods for some of our members are expiring. Those members have been notified separately. We hope that you will take this opportunity to renew your membership. We hate to see anyone drop out of the chapter.

Paul Beck has implemented a means of renewing your membership online. Since several members had found the renewal process onerous due to the requirement to create a login on our web site, we have created a new link, [Renew ASA](#), in yellow, on the left menu column. This is a much easier way to renew, and does not require a login on our web site. Complete instructions are located on the **Renew ASA** 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).

The Azalean – By now you should have received the **Summer 2014** issue of **The Azalean**. Obviously they are still behind in publishing the magazine, however they have a plan to bring the schedule back on track. Hopefully they will be back on schedule in the next few months.



In the latest issue of **The Azalean** is an article by **Martha Derthick**. I'm sorry to report that **Martha**, one of our chapter members from **Charlottesville**, passed away on 12 January. **Martha** was a retired political science professor at the **University of Virginia** and the author of several books. She was also deeply involved in horticulture. This link takes you to a copy of her [obituary](#) as well as a [more detailed obituary](#) from the **Charlottesville Daily Progress**. Our condolences go to her friends and family. A memorial service is planned for 2 May in **Charlottesville**.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Below is the schedule for 2015

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Mar 1	Chapter meeting with speaker and Plant Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church
Mar 26-29	ASA Convention	ASA	Nacogdoches, TX
Apr 19-20 (Addition)	Plant sale w/Garden Week	NV-ASA	Charlottesville, VA
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 26 (Change)	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	TBD
Sep 26	Azalea Auction	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church
Oct 17	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD
Oct 18	Chapter meeting with speaker and Plant Exchange	NV-ASA	TBD
Dec 6	Holiday Social/Annual Meeting	NV-ASA	Carolyn and Paul Beck's home

Other Activities/Notes –

Legacy Project –

I have spoken about the **Legacy Project** for several months now. 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 have finalized 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. This link will take you to the [convention website](#) in progress.

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.

The spreadsheet for the azaleas and growers for the **2016 Plant Sale** has been completed. Revisions will be made this spring as we evaluate the success of last year's cuttings. The final list will be made available on our website at least a month before the convention.

A limited number of cuttings will be started this year, so there is one last chance to offer your suggestions. If you have recommendation for some really exciting azaleas, please let **Carolyn** know.

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 – 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.

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 our meeting on 1 March.

Rick