

Mar 15 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

I'm so thankful that spring is almost upon us....even though **Mother Nature** is ensuring that winter goes out with a bang.

I'm sorry that we had to cancel our chapter meeting scheduled for 1 March. Many of our members have to travel great distances and we didn't want to take the chance of anyone being involved in an accident. We have been able to reschedule the meeting for 12 April.

Many of you may not know that **Susan** took over responsibility for back issues of **The Azalean** from **Eve Harrison** (former **NoVA Chapter** president) last summer. In our garage we have two shelving units of past issues which can be purchased for a nominal fee. One problem in the past has been the lack of a comprehensive index so it was difficult to know what was available. Thanks to **Bill Miller**, we now have an index which the ASA webmaster (and chapter member), **Dave Banks** has posted to the ASA website. This list will now be maintained and updated on the website. The linked page also provides information on ordering past issues. Unfortunately, some of the issues are no longer available except in private collections and the archives at the **North Carolina State University**.

Receipt of the index brought to light all of the great articles which have been in **The Azalean** over the years. It also brought to light that some of the issues are no longer available for purchase. Many of us relatively newer members were unaware of all the information which existed in the older issues...but unfortunately was difficult to obtain. A small working group of **NoVA Chapter** members has been working on an initiative to digitize **The Azalean** and have it online for research purposes. We are in the process of putting together information to support web access and are preparing a presentation for the **ASA Board of Directors** at the upcoming **Nacogdoches** convention. Hopefully we will get approval to move forward with this initiative.

Speaking of **The Azalean**, we were just provided a status update on publication. As you are all aware, the society has fallen behind in publishing our journal. The **Fall 2014** issue has been printed and is ready to mail out. The **Winter 2014** issue will be to the publisher by the end of the month. Hopefully we will be able to get things back on track by the end of this year.

We are now starting into our high season for events. Below are upcoming events. The first two are additions and are events sponsored by the **Potomac Valley Chapter** of the **ARS**. They have graciously invited our members to participate. We have also received information from the **American Boxwood Society** about their **2015 Symposium**. More details are available at **Other Activities/Notes**.

NC Plant Trip 6-8 March (Added) – The **Potomac Valley Chapter** of the **ARS** will be conducting a tour of NC nurseries. Once again they have invited our members to join them. This is a great opportunity to pick up some fantastic companion plants at excellent prices. More information is located on our [website](#) or from Don Hyatt (don@donaldhyatt.com).

Potomac Valley Chapter – ARS Meeting 22 Mar (Added) - The **Potomac Valley Chapter** of the **ARS** has also cordially invited our chapter members to their meeting on 22 Mar at 1pm the **Potomac Community Center**, 11315 Falls Rd, Potomac, MD. **Janet Draper** from the **Smithsonian Gardens** will be speaking about the **Mary Livingston Ripley Garden**, which is located on the National Mall. More information about the **Ripley Garden** can be found at <http://www.gardens.si.edu/our-gardens/ripley-garden.html>.

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](#).

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.

New member – **Mirjana Morosini** has recently joined our chapter. She lives in Warrenton, VA. Hopefully we will get a chance to welcome her in person at an upcoming chapter activity.

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).

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Below is the schedule for 2015

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Mar 6-8 (Addition)	NC Plant Trip	PVC-ARS	Various
Mar 22 (Addition)	PVC-ARS Meeting w/Janet Draper talking about the Mary Livingston Ripley Garden	PVC-ARS	Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Rd, Potomac, MD
Mar 26-29	ASA Convention	ASA	Nacogdoches, TX
April 12 (Addition)	Chapter meeting with speaker Mary Olien	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Date	Event	Organization	Location
	from Green Spring Garden and Plant Exchange		
Apr 19-20	Plant sale w/ Garden Week	NV-ASA	Charlottesville, VA
Early May	Chapter member garden tours	NV-ASA	Various
May 16	Green Spring Garden plant sale		Green Spring Garden in Alexandria, VA
Jul 26	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 -

American Boxwood Society (ABS) Symposium May 19-22 -

The **ABS** will be holding their 2015 symposium at **Longwood Gardens** from May 19-22. They are visiting a number of gardens in the **Brandywine Valley** as well as historic gardens in **Philadelphia**. If any members would like more information, it is available by clicking on this [link](#) or by going to their website at www.americanboxwoodsociety.org.

Azalea Property for Sale -

I normally don't get into the real estate business, however I was contacted by a seller who has an azalea property of 3.3 acres and two streams in North Silver Spring for sale. I find it a shame when properties with azalea gardens are sold to folks who have no appreciation for azaleas (and in some cases bulldoze them out). For more information, please contact George J. Simonis, 15230 Baughman Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20906, Ph: 301-598-6669, E-Mail: simonis.george@ieee.org

Legacy Project -

The **Legacy Project** is designed to "help ensure the continuation of knowledge of azalea hybridizers and their plants and maintain true specimens of their cultivars." 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](#).

Rick