

Jun 15 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

We're about to the end of our peak period of activity for the year. I know that a lot of us have been extremely busy with horticulture activities during April and May and are looking forward to slowing down just a little and enjoying our gardens.

May turned out to be as busy as April. I was honored to be invited to a reception at the home and garden of **Martha Derthick** in Charlottesville on 2 May. **Martha**, a longtime member of the ASA, passed away in January and this was an opportunity for her friends and family to remember **Martha** and enjoy her garden. She had published an article on her garden "**Reclaiming the Clouds' Garden**" in the Fall 2002 issue of **The Azalean** and had recently written an article on "**Azaleas in the Life and Work of Beatrix Farrand**" for the Summer 2014 issue. I was also able to visit **Fran** and **Andrew Boninti** and enjoy their beautiful garden.



On 16 May we had a very successful plant sale at **Green Spring Garden**. We were helped by some of the best weather we have had in recent years for the sale. I'd like to thank **Paul** and **Carolyn Beck**, **David** and **Patsy Meadows**, **Lars Larson**, **Larry Martin**, **Barry Sperling**, **Jeanne White**, **Paul Davis**, **Pati Gabaldoni** and **Lee McElvain** for their help in conducting the sale.



The following day a number of us took advantage of the picnic invitation by associate chapter members **Mike** and **Debbie White** at their nursery in **Germantown, MD**. They opened up their green houses and we were able to purchase some beautiful plants. We were also able to have a planning

meeting for the 2016 convention since we had representatives from all of the chapters involved. Other **Northern Virginia ASA** chapter members in attendance were **Jim** and **Susan Hedrick**, **Don Hyatt**, **George McLellan**, **Paul** and **Carolyn Beck**, **Dianne Gregg**, **Margaret Vogel** and **Marvin Friedman**.

Speaking of the convention, **Carolyn Beck** is heading up the azalea propagation effort and recently had a potting party. **Sam** and **Ginger Burd** and **Dave** and **Leslie Nanney** helped **Carolyn** in potting close to 650 plants! If you are able to help in future potting parties, please contact **Carolyn**.

We have added an additional event for this month:

Smoky Mountain Trip 13-22 June – **Don Hyatt** and **George McLellan** will once again be conducting a [trip](#) to the **Smoky Mountains**. Some of the places to be visited are **Roan Mountain**, **Wayah Bald**, **Gregory Bald** and **Hooper Bald**. A flyer with more information is located at the following [link](#). This is a great opportunity to see some incredible native azaleas and rhododendron in the beautiful Smoky Mountains. I hope to be able to participate in at least part of the trip.



New Members - We'd like to welcome new members to the chapter. **Mary Vandembroucke** joined the chapter at the **Green Spring Gardens** sale. **Jim** and **Susan Hedrick** joined at the **White Nursery Picnic**. Many of you have met **Jim** and **Susan** at previous chapter events. **Susan** is also the President of the **Potomac Hosta Club**. We would also like to welcome **Herbert** and **Nancy Hargroves**, ASA members from **Manakin Sabot VA** near Richmond, who recently affiliated with our chapter. We hope to welcome all of our new members at a future chapter event.

The Azalean – A lot of effort is underway to get **The Azalean** back on a regular, timely, publication schedule. To help in this effort, a decision was made to publish a double issue covering spring and summer 2015. This issue should be available to members no later than July. After this double issue, future issues of **The Azalean** should be on a regular publication schedule.

As a reminder, a comprehensive index of **The Azalean** is now online on the ASA website. The index facilitates ordering back copies of **The Azalean** as well as to view selected articles online.

As I mentioned last month, the **ASA** Board of Directors, at the Nacogdoches, TX convention, approved a new project to put **The Azalean** online. This initiative has been spearheaded by members of our chapter. This project involves digitizing old **Azaleans** as well as putting the new issues online as soon as they go to the printers. The first online **Azalean (Winter 2014 issue)** is now available. You can currently access it from the [Archives](#) menu selection on the ASA website. Note that you must be logged in to view the articles.

In order for articles to be released, we first need to obtain copyright releases from the authors. As these releases are obtained, and the articles have been digitized (if not available in softcopy), the article will be viewable from the above link.

If you have authored any articles in the past, you will receive a copyright release form. Please sign and return it as soon as possible so that we can move forward with this initiative.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Below is the schedule for the remainder of 2015

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Jun 13-22(added)	Smoky Mountain Trip	PVC-ARS/MAC-ARS	Various
Jul 26	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church
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 –

Azalea Clipper input deadline 1 Jul –

If you have any input for the next issue of the **Azalea Clipper**, please provide it to **Barry Sperling** at bsperling@cox.net no later than 1 Jul.

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 hope that many of you will be able to take part in the **Smoky Mountain** trip this month and that I will see you next month at our cutting exchange.

Rick