

Dec 15 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

This has been a busy month for **Susan** and me. I was happy to be invited to speak on **Bob Stewart's Azaleas** to the **Mason-Dixon Chapter** of the **ARS** in **Westminster, Maryland**. It turned out to be a good meeting (how could it be otherwise with **Bob's** beautiful cultivars?) and I always enjoy seeing folks who, while members of **NV-ASA**, live too far away to normally attend our functions. I also had the opportunity to meet with other members of the convention planning committee at the **Fort Magruder Hotel** in **Williamsburg**. The hotel is a very nice facility, conveniently located to the historic sites and **Williamsburg** and centrally located to all of the gardens we have on our convention itinerary.

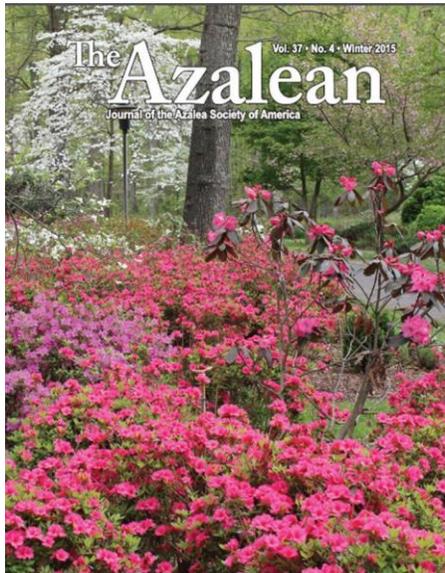


RBS-27 Betty Ellen, named after Bob Stewart's wife. Photo by Carolyn Beck

Holiday Social 6 Dec - This year's pot luck social will be held at **Carolyn** and **Paul Beck's** home. This is always a great event and an important one for our chapter. All members are asked to bring a dish to share. We will elect officers for next year, approve the budget for 2016 and make allocations of donations for 2015. You should have received the detailed information you need in **Not the Clipper, Barry's** year end version of **The Azalea Clipper**. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me or **Carolyn Beck** at 703-860-5676 or carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com.

Volunteers - As I've stated before, the chapter could not operate without the help of dedicated volunteers. We thank **Barbara Kirkwood** for volunteering to fill the position of **Vice President** and **Joanne Neckel** for volunteering to fill the position of **Secretary** this coming year. **Susan Bauer** is giving up the position of **Secretary** and volunteered to help **Barry** with the distribution of **The Azalea Clipper** (as well as the duties she's performing at the national level). Thanks for doing a great job as **Secretary**. I thank **Paul Beck** for agreeing to continue as our **Treasurer** (as well as the many things he has done/is doing for national) and **Barry Sperling** for continuing to put out a first class newsletter. I'd also like to thank **Lars Larson** for being an able **Vice-President** and basically jack of all trades in doing behind the scenes work for the chapter. Thanks to **Carolyn Beck** for many things, but especially her work in propagation and coordinating our fund raising. Finally, I'd like to thank **Patsy Meadows** for her great work as **Hospitality Chair** for the last several years. She (aided by **Pati Gabaldoni**) was responsible for ensuring the fine spread of refreshments we had at each meeting. I also want to thank the many members who have helped along the way this year. We couldn't have done it without you.

I recently spoke to **J Jackson, President of the ASA**, and told him how fortunate I was to have such great people to work with. Unfortunately we haven't had anyone step forward for the position of **Hospitality Chair** so we will have to let that position go away and just handle refreshments on an ad hoc basis. If you are able to assist in **Hospitality**, please contact me at rlickbauer@cox.net or (757) 833-7737.



The Azalean – The **Winter** issue of **The Azalean** is currently online at <http://www.nv-asa.org/azaleans>. It is a great issue, chock full of information on the upcoming convention, with articles on the convention and separate articles on the **Norfolk Botanical Garden** and **Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden**, two of the convention venues. You will need a password and user ID to access the most recent **Azaleans**. The paper copy of the journal should be in your mailbox during the month of December. It will include a registration form for the 2016 Convention as well as a ballot. Please do your part as a member of the **Azalea Society** and vote. While we unfortunately are not in a position to have multiple volunteers vying for each position, your participation does help fulfill society by-laws requirements. You will also be given the opportunity to vote for Best Article in **The Azalean**. Again, please take the time to vote and mail in your ballot.

Joint ASA/ARS Convention 20-24 April 2016 – Most of the planning and contracts for the 2016 convention are now in place. The convention planning committee met in **Williamsburg** last month to discuss detailed planning and to do another walk through of the hotel facilities. This will be a great convention with beautiful gardens, interesting speakers and the opportunity to take advantage of all of the historic venues in **Williamsburg** and the **Historic Triangle**. Up to date information on the convention is available on the convention website <http://arsasaconvention2016.org/>. Our hotel, The **Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center** is currently accepting reservations at <http://www.fortmagruderhotel.com/> or by calling 757-220-2250 using convention code **ASA**.

We hope that you are planning to attend the convention. We will be publishing volunteer requirements in the near future. Please consider volunteering some of your time to help make this convention a success.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Below is the schedule for the remainder of 2015:

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Dec 6	Holiday Social/Annual Meeting	NV-ASA	Carolyn and Paul Beck's home

Below is the current schedule for 2016. As always, events will be added (and rarely deleted) throughout the year:

Date	Event	Organization	Location
March 20	Spring Meeting with Speaker and Plant Exchange	NV-ASA/PVC-ARS	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church
April 20-24th	ARS/ASA Joint Convention	NV-ASA, Mason-Dixon, Middle Atlantic and	Williamsburg, VA

		Potomac Valley Chapters, ARS	
May 14	Green Spring Plant Sale	NV-ASA	Green Spring Gardens in Alexandria, VA
July 10	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church
September 17 (Correction)	Plant Auction and Sale	NV-ASA/Daylily Society	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church
October 22	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD
October 23	Fall Meeting with Speaker and Plant Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church
December 4	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	TBD

Other Activities/Notes –

ARS & ASA Convention 2016 Plant Sale - Update

Well over 2000 azaleas are being grown for this event by a number of chapter members. Most will be in 4" pots, but there will also be a nice selection in 3-quart and 1-gallon sizes. Featured will be cultivars from our **Legacy Hybridizers**. In addition, there will be representatives from other hybrid groups that are thought to be of special interest.

The tentative list of what will be included in the sale will be put on the website after the first of the year. Final changes will be made in March.

The plant sale is probably the largest member run event of the convention and requires a large number of volunteers.

Volunteers will be needed to perform the following tasks:

1. Enter plant descriptions and photographs onto the website.
2. Attach barcode tags to plants.
3. Groom plants for the sale, which would include light pruning, removing debris from around the base of the plant, and cleaning the outside of the pots.
4. Assist with loading and transporting plants to the Williamsburg area in March and April.
5. Also, delivering the azaleas to the convention site in late April.
6. Provide space for plants in the Williamsburg area during the month before the convention.

7. Help with plant sale setup on Tuesday and/or Wednesday, April 19th-20th.
8. Assist customers at the plant sale (answering questions, bagging/boxing plants, moving plants to the reserve/sold area or the customer's vehicle).
9. Staff Phytosanitary Certificate area. The plan is to provide inspection of plants that attendees wish to transport to areas in our country and overseas that have restrictions. These plants will be segregated and the required paperwork completed by the customer with assistance from staff.
10. Act as a Cashier.
11. Transport unsold plants back to the place of origin.

These events will take place from now until the end of the convention so there should be tasks which won't conflict with your schedules and which fit your interests/skill sets. Some of the tasks can even be accomplished if you are unable to attend the convention.

We would like as many of our group to participate in the convention sale. If you can help with any of the activities, please contact **Carolyn Beck** at 703-860-5676 or carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com .

Miscellaneous –

FREE AZALEAS. The **Becks** are **STILL** trying to make room for a large number of **Legacy** cultivars. In so doing they are parting with some mature azaleas, most of which are around 25 years old. If you can give a good home to any of the azaleas on the list at the bottom of the last page, please contact **Carolyn Beck** at 703-860-5676 or carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com.

The Azalea Clipper - Barry is doing a great job, however he currently does the lion's share of writing for the **Clipper**. Please consider writing an article. It doesn't have to be long and can be on any azalea related subject (e.g., gardens (public or private), hybridizers, companion plants etc.). Pictures are also always appreciated. Contact **Barry** if you have any questions bsperling@cox.net or 703-765-7062.

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](#). We recently added RareFind Nursery in Jackson, NJ to our list. They are members of the ASA and carry a number of our Legacy Hybrids.

I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving and I wish you Merry Christmas. I hope to see many of you at the Holiday Social at Paul and Carolyn Beck's home.

Rick

Free Azaleas at the Becks as of November, 2015

Beth Bullard, Pennington

Chamaecyparis obtusa (cultivar name unknown)

Chanson, Robin Hill

Easter Morn, Aichele

Eliza Hyatt, Schroeder

Gartrell K17-03

Gresham, Robin Hill

Holly Springs 84-16-42

Holly Springs 84-23-17

Holly Springs 85-43-6

Holly Springs 85-44-02 (may be incorrectly labeled)

Holly Springs 86-14-1

Holly Springs 86-27-9

Holly Springs 86-31-26

Huang 2-5-41

Meiko Solid, Satsuki

Oakton, Ring

Pucken, Robin Hill

Robin Hill Roseanne

Spring Sensation, Deciduous

Susan Camille, Schroeder