

Dec 16 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

I hope that all of you had a great **Thanksgiving**. **Susan** and I spent it at home with friends. We're now looking forward to seeing many of you at our **Holiday Social** on 4 December at **John** and **Barb Kirkwood's** home. Hopefully many of you will be able to attend as this is also our annual meeting where we elect officers for next year, approve the budget, and make decisions on charitable contributions for 2016.

I'm pleased that **Barb** has agreed to be **Chapter President** for next year. While relatively new to the chapter, she has been a major presence both in volunteering (up-potting plants, volunteering at the convention including being a bus co-captain with **John** and serving as our **Vice President**). You can see by the 2017 calendar below, that she is bringing a new energy and ideas to the position. I look forward to supporting her as she takes the lead. I hope you all will do the same. I also want to add that **John** has agreed to take the role of **Outreach Chairman**. This position includes publicity...but goes beyond that in reaching out to the community to make them aware of our chapter and its programs. **John** brings a wealth of experience to this position and I'm sure he will receive plenty of guidance from the new president!

I wanted to reiterate what I said in the **President's Message** in the **Clipper**. I am proud of the accomplishments of our chapter and in all of the contributions of a large number of our members. I'm hoping we can work with other chapters in the society to continue to build the society and expand our membership. While I am giving up the presidency of the chapter, I told **Barb** that I would continue to produce and send out the monthly email.

New Members –

I'd like to welcome new members who joined the chapter at the October meeting.

Robin and **Brent Baer** are new to the area and are neighbors of **Paul** and **Carolyn Beck** in Oak Hill, Virginia.

Helen Li is a new member from Falls Church.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Below is the current schedule for the remainder of 2016 and 2017. As always, events will be added (and rarely deleted) throughout the year:

Date	Event	Organization	Location
December 4, 2016 1-5pm	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	Kirkwood's Home 11381 Seneca Knoll Dr. Great Falls, VA 22066
March 18, 2017 1-4pm	Mini Conference	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
March 30- April 2	2017 ASA Convention	Louisiana Chapter - ASA	Hammond, Louisiana
April 18 1-4pm	Chapter meeting with Speaker	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
April 27-30	American Rhododendron Society Convention - info only	ARS	Eureka, CA

May 6	Parkfairfax Apartment Complex Plant Sale	NV-ASA	Parkfairfax Apartments, 3360 Gunston Road, Alexandria, VA 22302
May 6-7	Member Garden Tours - Tentative	NV-ASA and PVC-ARS	Various - TBD
May 20	Green Spring Garden Plant Sale	NV-ASA	Green Spring Garden Park Alexandria, VA
July 16 1-4pm	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
September 9	Green Spring Garden Fall Plant Sale - Tentative	NV-ASA	Green Spring Garden Park Alexandria, VA
September 15-16	Ginter Garden Fall Plant Sale - Tentative	NV-ASA	Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond, VA
September 23 1-4pm	Azalea Auction and Sale	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
October 21 10 am - 1:30 pm	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD
October 22 1-4pm	Fall meeting with Speaker	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
December 3 1-4pm	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	TBD

Other Activities/Notes -

National Arboretum Workday - 3 December

Barbara Bullock has announced a workday at the **National Arboretum** on 3 December from 10am to 3pm. Tasks will include raking, tarping, some weeding, some pruning, and a lot of pulling leaves off of or out of their azaleas. If this interests you, please get back to **Barbara** via email at Barbara.Bullock@ARS.USDA.GOV or phone (202) 245-4511 so she has an approximate head count.

Barbara's complete message was forwarded separately.

Miscellaneous -

Photos for *The Azalea Clipper*/Facebook - Barry is looking for pictures of your garden to share with other members on our chapter **Facebook** page and in the **Clipper**. Now is the time to show off a little. Send your pictures to **Barry** at bsperling@cox.net.

We are also always looking for articles for the ***Azalea Clipper***. They don'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. Please consider writing an article. Contact **Barry** if you have any questions bsperling@cox.net or 703-765-7062. **Clipper** articles can also be the basis for later submissions to ***The Azalean*** (see below)

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 **Barb Kirkwood** at kirkwoodb@aol.com or 703-268-6958.

I hope to see you at the Holiday Social on 4 December at John and Barb Kirkwood's home.

Rick