

May 17 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

Once again I'm late with the monthly message. Last month it was due to the convention and this month it's because **Susan** and I just returned from the **Mediterranean**. In the three weeks there, we tried to find azaleas, but were only able to find four plants, all in pots and three of them for sale at a flower shop in Athens. We did see some beautiful flora however. I'm adding a couple of photos from the **Gibraltar Botanic Gardens**.



Member Garden Visits - May is normally one of the busiest months of the year for us. This year is no different. We have a full calendar of events for this month. **Barb Kirkwood** sent out a [message](#) identifying member gardens open for visits. I encourage you to take the opportunity to visit some of the gardens of our members. There are still late bloomers to see. I always leave a garden with ideas to incorporate in my own garden. It is probably a good idea to call ahead for all the gardens to check on the blooms.

Parkfairfax Plant Sale – 6 May This was the first year that we, as a chapter, sold plants at this event. Sales such as these raise revenue, but also elevate the visibility of our chapter and azaleas with the general public. We'd like to thank **Barry Sperling**, and **Carolyn** and **Paul Beck** for their work in conducting this sale.



Paul and Barry at Parkfairfax



Barry, Paul and Carolyn with Alexandria Mayor Allison Silberberg

Cosby Garden Visit –ADDED– This is a late addition and a reschedule of this activity. Those of you who attended the convention last year had the opportunity to visit the garden of members **Roy** and **Elizabeth Cosby** in **Rockville, VA** (now part of **Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden**). Unfortunately last year there was a late freeze which damaged many of the blooms. **Carolyn** is working to reschedule a visit to the Cosby Garden in the next two weeks (exact date not yet determined). If you would like to join the group visiting the garden, please contact **Carolyn Beck** at 703-860-5676 or carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com.

Green Spring Gardens Plant Sale 20 May– This is one of our major fund raisers for the year and a lot of fun also. There are always a large number of vendors selling beautiful plants of many types as well as garden tools and other accessories. The sale will be held from 9am-3pm with setup on 19 May (time to be determined). Chapter members are encouraged to volunteer to help set up/tear down and conduct the sale. If you are able to spend a few hours assisting, please contact **Carolyn Beck** at 703-860-5676 or carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com.

White’s Nursery Open House May 21st – Chapter members **Mike** and **Debbie White** will be holding one more open house this spring at their nursery in Germantown, MD. More information is in the March “**Not the Clipper.**” I have been to one of their open houses before and really enjoyed myself. Additionally, **Mike** and **Debbie** have a large collection of wonderful azaleas for sale.

Smoky Mountains Trip – early to mid-June -

This is an annual event organized by **Don Hyatt** and **George McLellan**. It is a wonderful opportunity to hike through different areas of the **Smoky Mountains**, viewing the native azaleas, rhododendron and other plant life. Planning is currently being done for this trip. The actual itinerary and dates will be established closer to the event to optimize the viewing of blooms. More information will be published in the near future, but if you want to be added to a mailing list for this event, contact **Don Hyatt** 703-241-5421 (home) or 703-975-0409 (cell).



Calendulaceum on Roan Mountain taken on 2016 Smoky Mountain Trip

A BIG Thank You - A number of us stopped at **Maarten Van Der Giessen’s** nursery in **Semmes, AL** after the recent national convention, to obtain some beautiful plants to add to our personal collections. **Maarten** also graciously donated a large number of liners and larger plants to the **Northern Virginia Chapter** for the support of the **Legacy Project** and chapter fund raising. All of us in the chapter want to extend our sincere thanks to **Maarten** for his generous contribution to our chapter and the society.



Plants donated by Maarten Van Der Giessen – photo by Carolyn Beck

Clifton Homes Tour 18 May – While not a chapter or society event, **Joanne Neckel** brought this to my attention and it may be something of interest to our members. A flyer for the event is located at the end of this message.

We already have a full calendar of events scheduled for this year. The current calendar is shown below.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

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

Date	Event	Organization	Location
May 6	Parkfairfax Condominium Complex Plant Sale	NV-ASA	Parkfairfax Condominium, 3360 Gunston Road, Alexandria, VA 22302
Early May	Member Garden Tours	NV-ASA and PVC-ARS	Various
May 20	Green Spring Gardens Plant Sale	NV-ASA	Green Spring Gardens Park Alexandria, VA
May 21 9am-5pm	White's Nursery Open House – Late Bloomers	White's Nursery	22531 Wildcat Road Germantown, MD 20876
Early to mid June	Smoky Mountains Trip	ASA/ARS	Various - TBD
July 16 1-4 pm	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
September 9	Green Spring Gardens Fall Plant Sale - Tentative	NV-ASA	Green Spring Gardens Park Alexandria, VA
Sept 15-16	Ginter Garden Fall Plant Sale - Tentative	NV-ASA	Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond, VA
Sept 23 1-4 pm	Azalea Auction and Sale	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
October 14 10 am - 1:30 pm	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD
October 15 1-4 pm	Fall meeting with Speaker	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Dec 3 1-4 pm	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	Lars and Jean Larson's Home 5785 Ladues End Ct., Fairfax

Other Activities/Notes –

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 **Lars Larson** at lars.larson@cox.net or (703) 277-3441.

I hope you are able to take advantage of the opportunity to visit member gardens and that you will be able to join us at our booth at the **Green Spring Gardens** plant sale.

Rick

Attachment next page – Flyer for Clifton Homes Tour

The 45th Annual
Clifton Homes Tour

Hosted by the Clifton Community Woman's Club to benefit our 501(c)(3) Charitable Trust

May 18, 2017

Proceeds donated to local scholarships and charities.

Tour:

9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Tickets: \$25 in advance
\$30 the day of the tour
\$10 for 1 home



Silent Auction & Market Place:

9:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Free Admission

Clifton Presbyterian Church
Masonic Lodge in Clifton
Primitive Baptist Church



Ticket Sale Locations:

Clifton

Adler's Art & Frame
Belle Jar Design
Hydrangea of Clifton

Burke

Five Star Hair
The Picket Fence
The Yarn Barn

Centreville

Banner's Hallmark

Fairfax

Judy Ryan of Fairfax

Day of the Tour

Clifton Presbyterian
Church

- ◆ Tour Elegant Clifton & Fairfax Station Homes
- ◆ Explore a Gorgeous Custom Recreational Vehicle and a Premium Motorcycle Collection
- ◆ Visit Historic Clifton Primitive Baptist Church
- ◆ Enjoy a Wreath Making Demonstration at the Clifton Masonic Lodge

Visit www.cliftoncwc.org or
call 703-830-1866 for more
information.