

December 17 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

It's hard to believe that another year has passed. Once again the chapter had a very successful year with excellent programs, profitable plants sales and an active Legacy Project program, which is now an official project of the Azalea Society of America. The Executive Committee has proposed another interesting and ambitious schedule of events for 2018.

The chapter continued its efforts to expose the public to Legacy hybrids. On 2 November, Susan and I delivered 21 Stewart and Klimavicz azaleas to Aaron Cook at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute in Hudson, NC. Aaron is a former President of the ASA and had contacted to chapter earlier in the year to acquire the plants in support of the Legacy Project.



Former ASA President Aaron Cook receiving Klimavicz and Stewart hybrids from the chapter Photo Susan Bauer

On 17 November, the chapter provided 33 Glenn Dale azaleas to the Norfolk Botanical Garden (NBG) as part of the Legacy Project. The chapter previously conducted a Glenn Dale project with NBG, starting in 2011. This project identified the "best" Glenn Dales and helped NBG increase their inventories of the hybrid group. The project went into hiatus for a couple of years and has now been reinvigorated. This is the first of the deliveries of plants to NBG.

National Arboretum Workday – 2 Dec 10 am – 3 pm

Barbara Bullock of the **National Arboretum** has established a workday for 2 December. The contents of her email are once again attached at the end of this message. This is a great opportunity for chapter members to support the azalea collection at the **National Arboretum** and work up a good appetite in advance of the Holiday Social! Participants will need to complete a One Day form. This form is attached to the email forwarding this message. **If you intend on participating, please contact Barbara Bullock. (202) 245-4511.**

Holiday Social – 3 Dec 1-5 pm Larson home

The chapter will hold its Holiday Social and annual meeting on 3 December at the **Larson** home. This is always a great event and we appreciate **Lars** and **Jean** opening their home once again for this event. There will be a number of business items, which will be voted on by members. Detailed information on the function as well as the items to be voted on has been sent out in the latest "**Not the Clipper.**" **Barbara Kirkwood** has also sent out an email requesting members indicate their planned participation and what they are planning to bring. If you have not yet responded, please get with **Barbara**.

New Members – We're happy to welcome another new member to the chapter. **William Hitt** recently joined and lives in Charlottesville.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

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

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Dec 2 10am- 3 pm	National Arboretum Work Day	National Arboretum	U. S. National Arboretum 3501 New York Ave. NE Washington D. C. 20002

(added)			
Dec 3 1-5 pm	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	Lars and Jean Larson's Home 5785 Ladues End Ct., Fairfax

Below is the current calendar for 2018.

Date	Event	Organization	Location
March 18 1-5 pm	Spring meeting Speaker Barbara Bullock	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Apr 5-8	National Convention	ASA	Little Rock, AR
Apr 21	Plant Sale		Virginia Historic Garden Week Charlottesville, VA
Late Apr (TBD)	Cosby Garden Tour	NV-ASA	Rockville, VA
Apr 28/29	Member Garden Tours	NV-ASA	Various
May 3-5 Tentative	Louis Ginter Plant Sale	LGBG	Richmond, VA
May 5/6	Member Garden Tours	NV-ASA	Various
May 19	Green Spring Gardens Sale	Green Spring	Green Spring Gardens Park Alexandria, VA
May 20- 27	ARS Convention	ARS	Bremen, Germany
July (TBD)	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Sep (TBD)	Auction/Sale	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Oct 20	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD
Oct 21	Fall Meeting w Speaker	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Dec 9	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	TBD

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.

This has been a great year for the chapter and the society. I'm looking forward the upcoming year. Unfortunately Susan and I won't be able to join you for the end of year social since we are out of country. We will raise a glass of Glühwein (hot spiced wine) to all of you during the time you are celebrating! Happy holidays and we wish you a happy New Year.

Rick

1 Attachment – Memo on the 2 Dec National Arboretum work day

Seeking volunteers for One-Day Workday in the Azalea Collections -Saturday Dec 2, 2017

Dear Past, Present and Future Volunteers,

Tis the season of leaf drop, volumous, beautiful, wonderful –in the Azalea Collections at the National Arboretum. This is our **7th Annual Saturday Fall Work Day** – every year, the first Saturday in December.

This email is being sent to you because either you have worked a weekend workday in the past, or have expressed interest. If I have sent this in error, I apologize, *please just ignore*. I can't seem to delete addresses from my government email list.

We all have lives at home and this is a busy time of the year. Remember I know: “Your Life Comes First” -- BUT if you have some “spare” time, please send me an email or give a call, and we'll work together to put the Azalea Collection to “bed” for the winter. Please also forward to any people you think might be interested in joining us. I'm sending to Garden Clubs, Master Gardeners, former volunteers, and volunteer coordinators. (*I do not have current contact addresses or emails for DC, VA, nor MD Master Gardeners – so if you do, could you please forward, or send me their contact info. Thank you!)

TASKS: We will be digging weeds (like *Arum italicum* and English Ivy); raking and tarping leaves, picking leaves out of azaleas; some pruning, some dividing of perennials. I will provide all tools needed for the day.

DATE: Saturday December 2nd, 2017 from 10:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. Please park in regular visitor's parking lot and meet a few minutes before 10am, in the lobby of the administration building. We will walk up together. If you have to come late, our receptionist will need your one-day form, provide you a name tag, and send up up. You will find us in the vicinity of the Lee Garden. **Please fill out the One Day form**, (attached) and bring it with you. We'll have extras at the front desk if you forget –**but they need to be filled out BEFORE you work**. Any regular USNA volunteers can sign in and out as usual.

QUALIFICATIONS: Simply the desire to work outside, and a love of gardening. Some moderate hill climbing ability required. Some previous gardening experience is helpful.

BRING: You should bring your own gardening gloves –but we have some if you forget; a lunch and plenty of water in a non-breakable container. We will take a break around 12:30pm and eat in somewhere off the beaten path in the garden. So, bring it up with you when you walk up into the garden. Wear closed-toed sturdy shoes; and dress in layers. Some people bring hats and kneeling pads.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME: IF the weather is “iffy”, too cold, damp, drizzly, this is a chance that I will cancel our work day. Please check in with our receptionist if you are in doubt. If I cancel, I will call her by 8:30am, from my home, on the morning of our work day to cancel. **The ONLY WAY to find out if we're canceled is to call (202) 245-4523 after 8:30a.m.** If the weather is nice, you don't need to call. It takes a pretty bad day for me to cancel. I will not cancel if it is cold. Unfortunately, there will be no rescheduled date.

Now, let's hope the leaves fall on schedule. We're finally starting to feel like fall around here. Happy Halloween everyone, and I look forward to seeing all of you again!!

Sincerely,

Barbara

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www.usna.usda.gov