

The Azalea Clipper

Next Chapter Event:

The next chapter event is the Fall Azalea Sale at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church from 1-4 pm on 25 September.

We're on the Web!
<http://www.nv-asa.org>

The Northern Virginia Chapter web page is a great source for late breaking news, such as weather-related cancellations.

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Plant Sale 25 September

Our 14th annual Fall Azalea Sale will be held on 25 September 1-4 pm at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church. This is an excellent opportunity to obtain quality azaleas to add to your garden. Rain date, if necessary, is 2 October.

Volunteers are needed to set up, run and tear down the sale. Face masks are recommended. If you can assist, please call Carolyn Beck at 703-860-5676.



President's Message

We're coming to the end of summer and the start, hopefully of cooler weather. I hope that all of you had a good summer. It was great having our first in-person, inside event, since the start of COVID, in July with our annual cutting exchange (and plant exchange).

It was great seeing old friends again after such a long time. It was also great seeing John and Barb Kirkwood after three years. They recently returned to the Washington area after a tour in Canberra, Australia.

In addition to a nice selection of cuttings, we had a large number of plants available for our attendees. Many of the attendees left with a half a dozen plants or more. That is one of the benefits of belonging to our chapter.

Our next event is our fall plant sale at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church. I hope to see a good turnout of members to assist with this sale.

Fall Plant Sale – 25 September Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

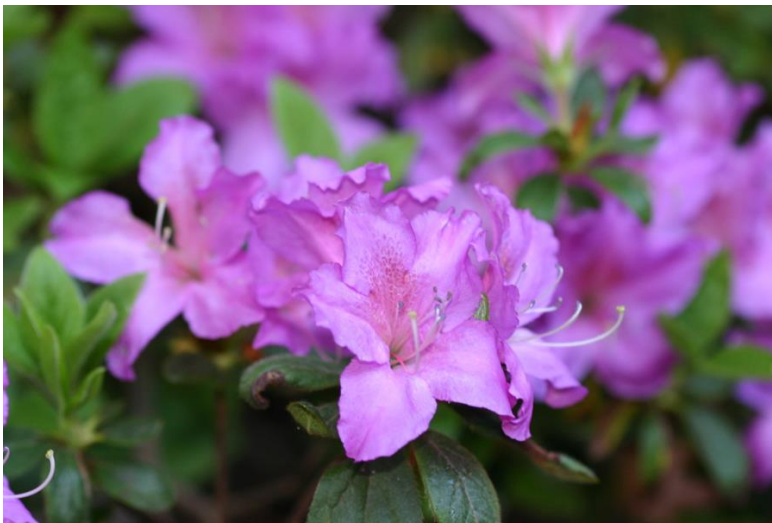
The Chapter will be holding its 14th annual Fall Plant Sale at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church on 25 September from 1 – 4 pm. In previous years, this sale had been held in conjunction with an auction. Due to the lingering effects of COVID (i.e., the Delta variant), we will once again hold only the sale and it will be conducted outdoors. Volunteers are needed to set up, tear down and conduct the sale. If you're able to assist, contact **Carolyn Beck** at 703-860-5676. Hopefully we'll have a good turnout for one of our major fundraisers of the year.

All of the plants available for the fall sale are available to chapter members, in advance, and at a lower price than offered to the general public. The member sale is on the chapter website at <https://nv-asa.org/plant-sale/>. Plants ordered on the website must be picked up by the purchaser. To coordinate pickup, contact Carolyn Beck at carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com or 703-860-5676.



Susan Bauer arranges plants for sale while Carolyn Beck takes photos photo R. Bauer

Legacy Project Propagation –



Holly Springs "Sultry" photo C. Beck

The Legacy Project originated in the Northern Virginia Chapter and has since become a society project. The Chapter continues to be very active in promoting the azaleas of our chapter (and other) hybridizers. One of the activities in the project is propagation of the hybrids.

Dave and **Leslie Nanney** have been active in the promotion of Holly Springs azaleas and have a large collection of most of chapter member **Pete Vines'** Holly Springs hybrids. They are the Holly Spring Legacy Collectors and really enjoy having a focus in their garden beyond just "pretty flowers". If you are interested in getting cuttings to propagate, contact **Dave** at (703) 624-3754.

Also, if you are looking to collect another specific group of hybrids, please give them a call as their garden is organized by hybrid group. They would welcome visitors with cutting clippers and can guide you to their over 1,000 different hybrid varieties.

In Remembrance, Phil Louer

In last month's message to members, we reported the passing of long time chapter and society member, **Phil Louer**. **Phil** and his late wife **Frances**, (**Leslie Nanney's** mother) were the publishers of this newsletter for thirty years.

Eve Harrison, a former president of the chapter, shared some memories of **Phil** which are provided below:

My most vivid memory of **Phil** was when, as president of Northern Virginia chapter, I was told we were going to sponsor a national convention in 2010!! I had only worked with young children, ages 4 through 4th grade teaching my specialty Orff Schulwerk. Someone told me **Phil** had been a project engineer in his previous life and I realized that could help the chapter and me in planning a convention (nothing I'd ever done!). I asked him for his advice on several aspects of the convention and he gladly told me what I needed to do to start the whole planning process. He also stepped up and volunteered to be the convention chairman.



Phil and Frances Louer in Don Hyatt's garden during the 2009 ASA Convention. Photo R. Bauer

Bob and I were living some 70 miles away down in the Shenandoah Valley and made numerous trips to the **Louers** for planning sessions. After we had secured the hotel for the convention Phil credited us with 4 nights at the hotel so we wouldn't have to travel up and down the valley to the many meetings always held in Haymarket at the **Louers**. What a generous spirit for us!

I do remember going to many azalea sales and watching **Frances** bid on many more azaleas than her collection of some 10,000! **Phil** would patiently mutter "**Frances**" while she took home many more plants that never got put into the ground!!!

After **Frances'** passing, I was told he donated thousands of potted azaleas to the Northern Virginia chapter. What a sweetheart; we were able to make money on their sales over the years, again thanking him for his generous spirit for all of our members. Our convention efforts turned out well and so the chapter was able to get many benefits as a result of his generosity.

Chapter Officers for 2022

As we approach the end of 2021, it's time to start thinking about the election of officers for next year. The elected officer positions for the chapter are President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. If you are interested in running for any of these offices or would like additional information, contact Rick Bauer at rickbauer@gmail.com or 757-771-4446 by 15 October.

New Member

The chapter welcomes new member **Mark Nijland**. **Mark** is from Hengelo, Gelderland in The Netherlands. **Mark** is a hybridizer who has worked with **Joe Klimavicz** over the years. He is also very knowledgeable about Satsukis. Hopefully we'll get a chance to meet him, if not in person, during a Zoom session.

Calendar for 2021

Below is the schedule for the 2021. The calendar is also available on the chapter website at <https://www.nv-asa.org/calendars>.

Monthly workdays will also be scheduled at the Klimavicz Legacy Garden. Dates and times will be published closer to the actual workday.

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Sep 25 1 – 4:00 pm	Fall Plant Sale	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Oct 24 1:30 – 4:30 pm	Fall Meeting with speaker	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Oct 24 4:30 – 6 pm	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Dec 5 1 – 4:30	Holiday Social/Annual Meeting	NV-ASA	At the Beck's home

Our previous editor, **Barry Sperling**, periodically shared articles on horticultural topics, written by an anonymous donor who goes by the pseudonym **California Rose**. The following thesis was recently discovered and is being shared with our members.

Devil Weed

I am a beginner gardener, and I will always be a beginner because I do not seem to remember previous gardening bloopers, and regularly repeat my blooming errors. When we first moved to this house, I saw what looked like chrysanthemums growing amongst the other established plants. I thought, how nice that the previous owners had left so many mums that would bloom in the fall. By the time I realized they were actually some sort of devil plant that has long roots underground that cannot be pulled, the plants were well on their way to conquering the entire garden. It took me two years to get rid of it all.

Fast forward, the garden has been neglected for several years through no actual fault of my own. That is my story, and I am sticking to it. We decided it would be good to clean up the vegetable beds and plant fall crops of lettuce, spinach, and perhaps some peas.

So, spouse and I trekked out to the garden with gloves, trowels and diggers. This particular bed was totally covered with weeds, tall, skinny



grass like weeds, very fat leafed weeds, AND what should I spy hiding underneath the three-foot monsters, but devil weed!

Having seen this before, I knew that they had to go, immediately! Spouse got right to work digging with a trowel. I went back for the big guns and got a shovel, but the going on my side of the bed was really slow. Meanwhile, spouse was moving right along, something of a weed terminator. But as I followed the runners for what seemed like miles, or at least several feet, my pile of tangled runners was growing significantly faster than that of spouse. I worried that the weed whisperer might be missing a few of the roots and runners which would remain just beneath the surface waiting to attack and continue the total conquering and annihilation of the garden bed.

I became quite concerned about how much root left in the ground might sprout a new devil weed. A few days later, I found that a two-inch piece of root managed to flourish and produce a new green pseudo chrysanthemum. As I continued to try to clear the bed, I became paranoid over every piece of white runner/root I encountered, carefully picking them out and flinging them into the devil weed pile. Because I was so slow, spouse decided I needed more help and we whizzed through the rest of the bed. I did notice spouse's previously cleared area was beginning to bloom with mini wavy leaves. Further investigation showed a whole civilization of runners and roots that the weed whisperer did indeed miss. So, day five found us both back clearing spouse's original patch. I was just a bit silently smug over my apparently more successfully cleared area even with my two-inch root I missed.

I am not sure what the name of devil weed really is. And I would like to know so I am properly cursing the weed with its official name. I am enclosing a photo of devil weed just in case someone has this knowledge. If that someone is you, please forward that bit of intelligence to our fearless newsletter editor, **Rick Bauer**, so he can enlighten us all.

California Rose