



The Azalea Clipper

Northern Virginia Chapter, Azalea Society of America

Volume 31, Issue 1A



Hillwood Museum and Gardens, *Bill Johnson* (This is a rescheduled Meeting from February 7 2010)

Mother Nature's blast on the weekend of 6-7 February resulted in the postponing of our chapter meeting. We were able to reschedule for 7 March when Bill Johnson will give his presentation, "Hillwood Through the Seasons". **This meeting will be at the Pohick Branch Library, Springfield, VA.**

Bill Johnson has been at Hillwood Museum and Gardens for twenty-seven years. He is currently a staff horticulturist and volunteer coordinator. Bill's formal horticulture training was mostly at Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania with a Certificate of Merit in Ornamental Plants and several other certifications.

The presentation will be a visual tour of the gardens beginning in winter and moving through the other seasons. There will be lots of color from the azaleas in the spring, which is one of the signature plants for Hillwood. Bill will talk about the plant collections and the effort they make to keep the design intent of Mrs. Post's garden as it was when she was there.

Please check refreshment duty note below. ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

From the President *Eve Harrison*

Dear Friends,

I write to you with the first stirrings of spring as I witness the blue birds returning and sparrows chasing each other in the sky. Today promises what should deliver a significant snow melt as the high aims toward 52 degrees up here on the ridge. Two days ago I was still trudging through the last shrunken 12" of crusted snow to get to the freezer house down the hill and finally decided I'd had enough of that difficult walk these last 2+ months!

The moguls of snow that hid huge pots in the yard have finally revealed that indeed there were pots underneath all of that beauty and now I find myself poring through vegetable seed catalogs planning another large vegetable garden so the process begins again!

My poor cuttings out in the barn call out to me to finish "potting up" for the next season so with all of these signals calling

(Continued on page 2)

*Meeting on
Sunday,
March 7th,
1:30 P M at
Pohick
Regional
Library,
Springfield,
VA -
Directions on
page two -*

**Upcoming Chapter Meeting
April 11, 2010
Please mark your calendars -**

Refreshment Duty—
For this meeting, the duty falls to those whose last names begin with the letters-
A through K

(Continued from page 1)

out, I think I'm getting ready to abandon my "deep cleaning" and sorting and taxes and be led again by the wonderful natural world.

We are so looking forward to getting together with everyone to discuss this year's schedule, budget and by-laws so that you all will have a vote in the chapter's goals, long and short term. Please come and be heard and cast your votes. As I said last month, I know many of you haven't come in a long time and we will be so happy to renew our friendship and hear your ideas.

Many of us have made plans to attend the convention in New Orleans. This grand experience gives us so many opportunities to meet members of other chapters and exchange ideas of how we're all approaching the various joys and challenges of involvement in a national association devoted to our gardening passions. I do hope to see you there!

I'm happy to announce that our chapter has the most renewals of membership so congratulations on being a leader to help other chapters gain ground on both their memberships and involvement. There's always so much food that you can skip a meal or two the day of meetings so please come! There will be a full treasurer's report that will encompass all the fundraising activities of the previous year including our convention figures from which we will decide how best to be financial stewards of azaleas in our area and beyond. It's all very exciting and I'm very proud that the hard, fun work we all performed has given us great opportunities.

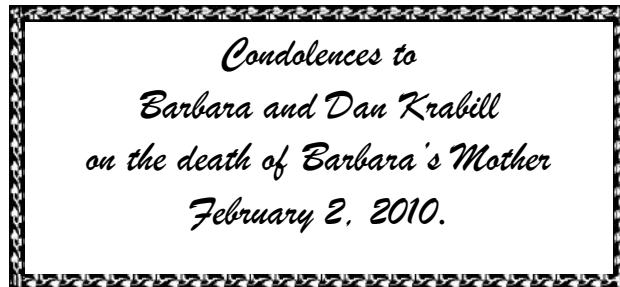
See you soon!
Eve

Notes From The Vice President—Rick Bauer

The Executive Committee met on 24 January at Carolyn and Paul Beck's house to approve the schedule and budget for 2010 and to approve a revision of the Chapter By-Laws for presentation to the chapter members for final approval (the latter item is on the agenda for the 11 April meeting). Additionally, we approved the purchase of a liability policy to cover the chapter and our activities for the next year.

We're hoping to embark on a more ambitious program to raise the profile of the chapter in the hopes of bringing in more members, generating more revenue and executing the goals of the national organization and chapter to further promote interest in and exchange of knowledge of azaleas.

The initial two events are (1) setting up a chapter booth at the Garden Week in Charlottesville on 18-19 April and (2) participating in the plant sale at Blandy Arboretum 7-9 May. The latter was very successful two years ago and hopefully will once again provide a significant infusion to our treasury. Anyone able to assist in this activity (e.g., transport azaleas, setup or tear down, sales etc.) should contact Larry Martin.



Directions to Pohick Regional Library

From Fairfax County Parkway, take Old Keene Mill Road east past Lee Chapel Road and Burke Town Center. Turn Right at Sydenstricker Road. Library is on the right.

From the Beltway and I-95 take the Springfield exit and stay on Old Keen Mill Road for about 4 ½ miles. Cross Rolling Road past Rolling Valley Mall on right to Sydenstricker Road on left. Turn left on Sydenstricker Road to library.

The Azalea Clipper is published BI-monthly by the **Northern Virginia Chapter of the Azalea Society of America**. The officers of this Chapter are:

President	Eve Harrison
Vice President	Rick Bauer
Secretary	Leslie Nanney
Treasurer	Phyllis Rittman
Corresponding Secretary	Frances Louer

News items may be provided to Frances Louer,
15800 Palmer Lane, Haymarket, VA 20169-1808