February 18 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

This message will be relatively short compared to normal given this is the "sleepy" time of year for our chapter. I am getting excited as we approach spring and my azaleas start to bloom.

I'm also looking forward to plants, other than my azaleas, providing my deer a source of food. The other morning I turned the corner on my driveway and found eight of them! Attached is a picture of one I was able to capture in the act of visiting the azalea salad bar!

On the 22nd of January, I gave a talk on The **Legacy Project** to the **Laurel Garden Club** in Springfield. The members showed a great interest in azaleas and procuring some of the beautiful varieties developed by our hybridizers. I hope to see some of them at our future sales and other activities.



Many of you are probably aware that we are in the process of developing a **Klimavicz Legacy Garden** at **Meadowlark Garden**. **Barb Kirkwood** is working with the staff there to develop a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). This will be a major project for the chapter this year and I think it will serve as a great example for other chapters in the society.

Membership Renewal – Some of our current members have not yet renewed their membership. We hope this was just an oversight. You can renew on line at https://www.azaleas.org/join-asa/ or by contacting Paul Beck. Please do it now while you are thinking about it. Membership dues go primarily towards producing and mailing *The Azalean*. Unfortunately if your renewal is not received by the end of February, the society will remove you from the rolls and you will no longer receive copies of our journal.

Below is a list of our upcoming events:

<u>Chapter Meeting 18 March 1-5 pm Kirkwood Presbyterian Church</u> – Our first meeting of the year will be highlighted by a talk by **Barbara Bullock** of the **National Arboretum**. Make sure to mark this one on your calendar.

ASA National Convention 5-8 April – The <u>ASA National Convention</u> will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas for the first time. This is an excellent opportunity to get together with old friends, see some beautiful gardens and azaleas and hear from interesting speakers. It is also a great opportunity to see another beautiful area of our country. I have always enjoyed the conventions since **Susan** and I started attending in 2008. I encourage you to attend. More information is available at the hyperlink above.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Below is the schedule for 2018. As always, events will be added (and rarely deleted) throughout the year:

Date	Event	Organization	Location
March 18 1-5 pm	Spring meeting Speaker Barbara	NV-ASA	<u>Kirkwood Presbyterian Church</u> <u>Springfield, VA</u>

	Bullock		
Apr 5-8	<u>National</u> <u>Convention</u>	ASA	Little Rock, AR
Apr 22 Tentative	Plant Sale	Garden Club of Virginia	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 5/6	Member Garden Tours	NV-ASA	Various
May 19	Green Spring Gardens Sale	Green Spring	<u>Green Spring Gardens Park</u> <u>Alexandria, VA</u>
May 20- 27	ARS Convention	ARS	Bremen, Germany
July 15	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Sep 15	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 -

<u> Miscellaneous</u> –

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 <u>bsperling@cox.net</u>.

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 <u>bsperling@cox.net</u> or 703-765-7062. *Clipper* articles can also be the basis for later submissions to *The Azalean* (see below). Any input for the March Clipper should be provided to Barry no later than 28 February.

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 <u>theazalean@gmail.com</u>. Articles should be submitted as Microsoft Word documents. Illustrations are highly encouraged and should be at least 4×6 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 <u>lars.larson@cox.net</u> or (703) 277-3441.

Keep the faith....the weather will get better! Our prime time for azaleas is rapidly approaching.

Rick