

May 19 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

Normally April-June are our busiest months of the year and it appears that this year will be no exception. The last month has been exceptionally busy, starting on the 31st of March with our joint chapter meeting with the Potomac Valley Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society (ARS). We had 43 attendees to hear ASA Vice President **Charlie Andrews** give an excellent presentation on "American Azaleas." He



Chapter Vice President Diane Marcus leads the business meeting



ASA Vice President Charlie Andrews gives his presentation on native azaleas

showed us amazing photos of naturally occurring hybrids which looked nothing like their parent plants. We learned a lot about native azaleas and their hybrids and even a bit about ploidy! We also had a large selection of beautiful plants in our plant exchange. Many of us added some beautiful varieties to our gardens.

Klimavicz Legacy Garden Planting 1 April

We had a great turnout for our planting of **Joe Klimavicz's** azaleas at Meadowlark Gardens in Vienna. Fourteen members showed up to plant 103 of **Joe's** hybrids. The large turnout enabled us to plant and mulch the plants in four hours. We'd like to thank **Paul and Carolyn Beck, Rick and Susan Bauer, Joanne and Dan Neckel, Fred Newlan, Richard Mohr, Don Hyatt, Mike White, Joe Gutierrez, Anne Marie and Marianna McKinnon, and Dave Nanney** for volunteering to plant the garden. We anticipate that we will have a formal dedication next year when the plants have become established and we have installed the signage.



Chapter volunteers plant azaleas in the Klimavicz Garden

Our Memorandum of Agreement with Meadowlark Garden commits us to 20 man-hours of volunteer work per month during the growing season (April-October). **Carolyn Beck** will send out email messages when these work days are scheduled. We hope to see many of you at one or more of these workdays.

Miscellaneous Travels

This has been a busy travel month for me beyond chapter activities. Many of these travels were in association with my role as President of the ASA. I was pleased to be able to visit a number of gardens of ASA members, including chapter members **Joe** and **Donna Coleman** in Lithonia, GA, **Fran** and **Andrew Boninti**, and **Jay** and **Shirley Gillenwater** in Charlottesville, VA. I was also pleased to link up with chapter members **Nick** and **Wanda Yarmoshuk** in St. Catharines, Ontario. I have included a number of photos at the end of this message.

Ayr Hill Garden Club Plant Sale 11 May 8am-1pm

The Ayr Hill Garden Club Plant Sale will take place in Vienna on Saturday, May 11th, from 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM. Set up will begin at 7:00 AM. Please contact **Carolyn Beck** at carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com or (703) 860-5676 if you are able to help.

Green Spring Gardens Plant Sale 18 May 9am-3pm

The chapter has participated in this event for several years. We've had a good response from a large number of chapter volunteers in the past. Unfortunately, this year many of the usual volunteers have calendar conflicts which preclude their participation. We would like to find out who would be willing to volunteer to help. We are prepared to scale back the scope of our participation based on the number of members who volunteer. **We are looking for more volunteers.** If you want more information on the sale or are interested in volunteering, please contact **Lars Larson** at Lars.Larson@cox.net or (703) 505-5733.



White's Nursery Open House 19 May 9am-5pm



One of the White's Nursery Greenhouses

Chapter members **Mike** and **Deb White** will be holding their annual open house at their nursery on May 19th. They will have end of season inventory reduced prices. This is always a good time to get some beautiful azaleas and rhododendron and the **Whites** have a large selection of quality plants.

For more information contact: **Deb White** (301) 471-5958 or whiteaz@verizon.net Or **Mike White** (301) 788-3293 or check out their website www.whites-nursery.com.

New Chapter Members:

We'd like to welcome **Judy Shapleigh** from Falls Church, **Kathy Higgins** from Alexandria and **Joseph Nemmer** from Mercer, PA to the chapter. We'd also like to welcome **Bruce** and **Marianne Feller** who were previously At Large members of the ASA. **Bruce** and **Marianne** live in Old Field, NY. **Bruce** is a former President of the American Rhododendron Society. Finally, we'd like to welcome **John Kaylor** to the chapter. **John** was previously an At Large member. He lives in Sykesville, MD.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Below is the schedule for 2019. As always, events will be added (and rarely deleted) throughout the year:

Date	Event	Organization	Location
May TBD	Potting Party	NV-ASA	Beck House
May 4-5	Member Open Gardens	NV-ASA	Various – gardens to be announced in May message
May 11	Plant sale in Vienna	NV-ASA	Ayr Hill Garden Club
May 16-19	ARS Convention	ARS	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
May 18	Green Spring Gardens Plant sale	NV-ASA	Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria, VA
May 19 9am-5pm	White's Nursery Open House and Sale	White's Nursery	White's Nursery 22531 Wildcat Road Germantown, MD 20876
Early to mid-June TBD	Smoky Mountain Hikes	ARS/ASA	Various Locations in the Smoky Mountains
Jul 14 1-4:30 pm	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Sep 28	Fall Sale and Auction	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Oct 27 1-4:30pm	Meeting with Speaker	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Oct TBD	Executive Committee Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD
Dec 8	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 **Diane Marcus** at dianemarcus@starpower.net or (301) 983-1098.

It was great to see the large turnout at our 31 March meeting and 1 April Klimavicz garden planting. If you are available, we'd appreciate volunteers to help with the Green Spring and Ayr Garden plant sales.

Rick

1 Enclosure – Travelogue

April Garden Travels



Nick and Wanda Yarmoshuk

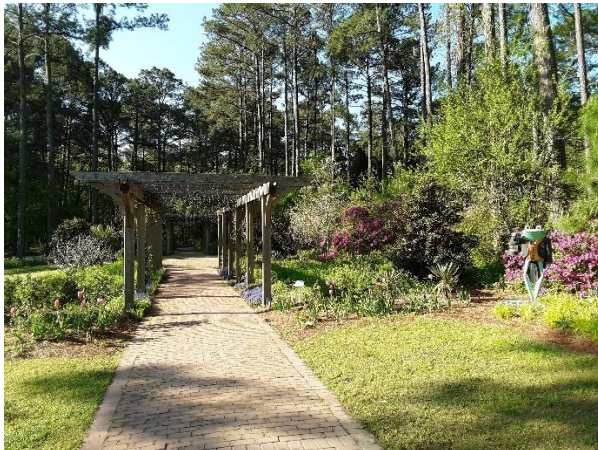
The first weekend in April I traveled to St. Catharines, Ontario to give a presentation on the Legacy Project to the Niagara Chapter of the ARS. **Nick Yarmoshuk**, Northern Virginia, ASA and Niagara Chapter, ARS member is the Legacy lead for the Vineland azaleas. **Nick** is currently working on an article on the Vineland azaleas which will appear in a future issue of ***The Azalean***.

While it was still too early in the season for azalea blooms, **Nick** sent me a photo of the Vineland bed at Rittenhouse Hall, Vineland Research Center, when it is in full bloom. Fortunately, the bed shown has copies of all of the known named varieties.

Kevin Kavanaugh, the owner of South Coast Gardens in St. Williams, Ontario and one of the Niagara Chapter members told us that he has been successfully growing **Pete Vine's** Holly Springs azaleas for many years. He had a number of varieties which were going to be available in their chapter plant sale.

After returning from Canada, **Susan** and I headed down to Georgia and Tennessee to visit southern gardens.

Our first stop was in Fayetteville, NC where we visited the **Cape Fear Botanical Garden**. While not an azalea garden per se, the garden did have a large number of azaleas.



Our next garden was **Lockerly Arboretum** in Milledgeville, GA. Those of you who attended the Summerville convention remember **Ernest Koone's** presentation during lunch at Magnolia Plantation. **Ernest** has generously donated a large number of Georgia native azaleas to **Lockerly** where they have established a Legacy Garden. Future plans include expanding the garden to include more hybrids from southern hybridizers such as **Kelly Strickland** and **Aaron Varnadoe**. Since the azaleas were just planted this year, it will be awhile until they have good size.



Rose Hill Mansion at Lockerly Arboretum



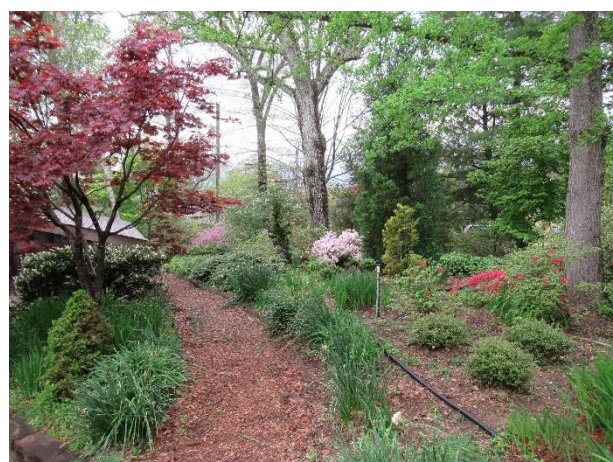
Native azaleas in Lockerly Arboretum Legacy Garden

Our travels took us next to Chattanooga, TN where we had the opportunity to visit **Hale** and **Susan Booth**. They are members of the Vaseyi chapter and **Hale** is the chairman of the Azalea Research Fund of the ASA. The **Booth's** garden which contains a wide variety of different plants. This reflects **Hale's** different horticultural interests and memberships in multiple plant societies.



We also had the opportunity to visit Dolan Garden in Signal Hill, TN again. In the winter **Azalean** there was a short segment on **Frances Jones** and Dolan Garden. **Frances** is a generous donor to our research fund and the ASA Board of Directors voted to give **Frances** a lifetime membership and to name an azalea after her. We had seen her garden in October and it was great to see the garden again...this time in bloom.

Dolan Garden, Signal Mountain, TN



Nowlin Garden, Signal Mountain, TN



We next headed down to the Atlanta area and visited garden of **Joan Adcock** in Newnan, GA. Joan has a large garden with an incredible collection of flammeum azaleas.



Joan Adcock and ASA VP Charlie Andrews setting up a photo shoot



The following day we started back home, stopping to visit with chapter members **Joe** and **Donna Coleman** in Lithonia, GA. We have known **Joe** and **Donna** for ten years and this is the first time we were able to visit their extensive garden. Many of you know **Joe** since he has attended several of our cutting exchanges over the years, giving a propagation demonstration a few years ago.



Hampton Beauty (Pericat)



Joe and Donna Coleman in front of Hampton Beauty – photo S Bauer

After leaving the **Coleman's** garden we stopped briefly at the **Georgia Botanical Garden** in Athens. Because we were on a tight time schedule, we didn't have a lot of time. Also, many of the azaleas were past peak bloom, but it is a garden we'd like to return to in the future.



Georgia Giant (Harris)



View of Georgia Botanical Garden

Our last garden trip for the month was to attend the Middle Atlantic Chapter (MAC) of the American Rhododendron Society meeting in Charlottesville. I always enjoy MAC meetings since I get to see many of the Northern Virginia ASA members who live in western, central and southeastern Virginia who don't often make it up to Northern Virginia to attend our events. We visited four beautiful gardens including those of chapter members **Fran** and **Andrew Boninti** and **Jay** and **Shirley Gillenwater** (those chapter members who attended the 2011 Charlottesville trip went to both of these gardens).

Gillenwater Garden – “Grand View,” Charlottesville, VA



Boninti Garden, Charlottesville, VA



Fran and Andrew Boninti taking a break from gardening

Bauer Garden, Yorktown, VA

