

Nov 18 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

While spring is normally the busiest time for azalea activities, this fall has almost equaled it in intensity. On the 7th of October, **Don Hyatt** and I gave presentations on the Bremen ARS Convention and the Finland Post Tour to the Middle Atlantic Chapter (MAC) of American Rhododendron Society (ARS). I always enjoy the MAC meetings since I get to see a number of our Northern Virginia chapter members who live in other parts of the state.

The weekend of 19-21 October **Susan** and I were down in Chattanooga, TN for the fall meeting of the ARS. It was great to see a lot of our friends from the ARS and the ASA. I was also pleased to meet **Frances Jones** from Signal Mountain, TN when we visited her Dolan Garden. **Frances** has been a big supporter of the Azalea Society of American (ASA), making significant contributions to the **Azalea Research Fund**. In April, the ASA Board of Directors recognized her contributions by giving her a Life Time membership in the ASA. Additionally, one of **Bob Stewart's** hybrids was named in her honor. I had the pleasure of presenting her a copy of the '**Frances F. Jones**' azalea in front of a large group of her friends, family and ASA and ARS members at her home and garden in Signal Mountain, TN.



Presenting Frances Jones an azalea named in her honor - Photo by Jackson McCarter

Chapter Meeting 28 Oct

It was great to see the large turnout for our meeting on October 28. **Don Hyatt** and I enjoyed sharing our experiences this year visiting European gardens and nurseries as well as touring some beautiful and historic cities as attendees at the 2018 Bremen Convention of the American Rhododendron Society and the Finland Post Tour. A total of 176 people from 18 countries attended the convention. It was truly an international event.



Bremen Rhododendron Garden

Don gave his presentation first. Members of the audience were amazed by the beautiful pictures of mature rhododendron and azaleas in the gardens visited. Though it was an unusually warm spring (and summer) in Europe, many plants were in peak form in Bremen and in the Ammerland area of Germany. It was also amazing to see huge fields of rhododendron and azaleas for the European nursery trade. **Don** showed pictures of our visit to the Schroeder Nursery where they produce 2 million rhododendron liners (grafted onto hardy Cunningham's White root stock) each year. The Bruns nursery sells many plants, including large topiaries and trees which sell in the \$20,000 plus range. He also covered



Don Hyatt starts his presentation on the 2018 ARS Convention

the outstanding speakers we had from multiple countries. Finally, he had many pictures of the delicious food we were treated to throughout the convention. I have attached some additional photos of the convention to the end of this message.

I followed with a presentation on the Finland Post Tour. This tour was attended by a smaller group of 45 participants. This tour was much more rural than the convention and visited a number of private as well as public gardens. One of the gardens had never been open to any group, including members of the Finnish Rhododendron Society! In addition to

the Finland Post Tour, I included pictures of some additional gardens visited in Germany and Norway. Additional pictures from my presentation are included at the end of this memo.

We had a good turnout at the meeting, including three guests from the Falls Church Garden Club. Two of them decided to join the chapter (see below).

After the presentation there was a drawing. Four lucky winners took home copies of the azalea 'Maybeth', a Bowie Mill hybrid. There was also a plant exchange with a large number of beautiful, mature azalea plants as well as other garden varieties. Many of us went home with some outstanding plants (and now the additional work of planting them)!



Large selection of azaleas and other plants in the plant exchange

After the meeting, the Executive Committee met to discuss next year's budget, calendar, officer slate and this year's recommended contributions. A copy of the calendar is included below. The remaining items will be sent as part of the upcoming **"Not the Clipper"** newsletter which will be coming out later this month.

Klimavicz Legacy Garden Workday

The scheduled workday to plant azaleas at Meadowlark Gardens had to be postponed due to non-availability of the senior horticulturist at Meadowlark. Volunteers will be notified when the event is rescheduled.

Holiday Social 9 Dec

Our annual holiday social and annual meeting will be held at **Paul and Carolyn Beck's** home on 9 Dec. Not only is this a great social event, it is our major business meeting of the year. We will vote on officers for next year, approve the budget and make decisions on donations

for 2018. We hope to see you there. More information will be in “**Not the Clipper**” later this month and in the monthly message next month.

New Members

Two of attendees at our 28 October meeting decided to join the chapter. We’d like to welcome **Karen Kinsey** and **Diane Hall**, both from Falls Church, VA. They are also members of the Falls Church Garden Club.

Addendum

Last month I wrote about our successful plant sale/auction in September. I failed to recognize **Diane Marcus** as one of the folks who helped with the tear down of the event. Thanks **Diane!**

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
Dec 9	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	Beck’s Home

Below is the schedule for 2019.

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Mar 14-16	ASA Convention	ASA	Summerville, SC
Mar 31	Meeting with Speaker	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Apr TBD	Potting Party	NV-ASA	Beck House
Apr 27-28	Member Open Gardens	NV-ASA	Various
May 4-5	Member Open Gardens	NV-ASA	Various
May 11 Tentative	Plant sale in Vienna	NV-ASA	Ayr Hill Garden Club
May 18	Green Spring Gardens Plant sale	NV-ASA	Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria, VA
May 16-19	ARS Convention	ARS	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Jul 14	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Sep 28	Fall Sale and Auction	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian Church Springfield, VA
Oct 27	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 –

Note on NV-ASA website security:

Recently, Google has started to require secure connections for those using its **Chrome** browser. It is anticipated that other browsers will follow suit shortly. In order to comply with this new security requirement, we have purchased a security certificate for the chapter website. You may encounter a security message warning that the connection is not secure when attempting to access our website. If you do, please insert the characters "https://" at the start of the URL. For example, put the full address "<https://www.nv-asa.org>" or the abbreviated one "<https://nv-asa.org>" in your browser. After a few accesses, your browser should remember that you are using a secure connection, and the "https://" may no longer be required.

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.

It was great seeing many of you at the October meeting. I hope you will be able to attend the Holiday Social in December at **Paul** and **Carolyn Beck's** home.

Rick

Germany



Bremen Rhododendron Garden



Van den Berk Rhododendron Nursery



Van den Berk Rhododendron Nursery



zu Jeddelloh Display Garden



Dave and Leslie Nanney on the hayride through Bruns Nursery



Banquet in the Ratskeller of Bremen City Hall



Reception in Bremen City Hall



Statue of Grimm Brother's Bremen Town Musicians



Pathway through rhododendrons in Park of the Gardens



Dr. Hartwig Schepker leads a tour through Park of the Gardens



Roland Statue in front of the Bremen City Hall

Finland



Azaleas in Haaga Rhododendron Garden, Helsinki, Finland



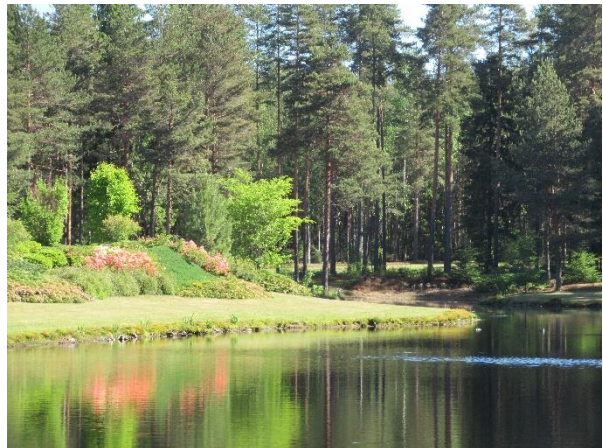
Mustila Arboretum, Finland



Sappoka Water Park, Kotka, Finland



Azaleas in Fuksinpuisto Park, Kotka, Finland



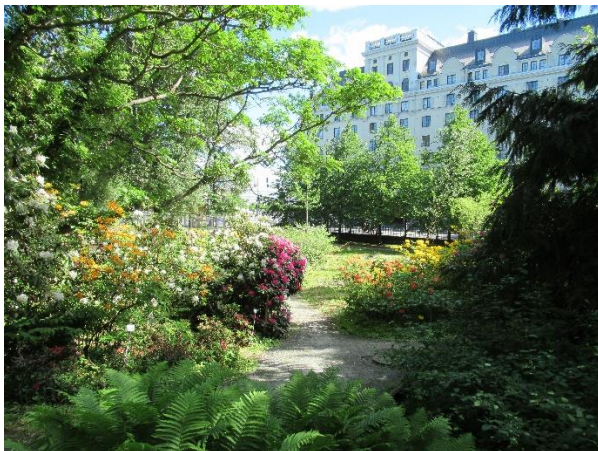
Iloa Arboretum, Salo, Finland



Ilola Arboretum, Salo, Finland



Kristian Theqvist's Rhodogarden, Korpo, Finland



Azaleas and Rhododendron in Helsinki Arboretum

Norway



Flor og Fjære, Stavanger, Norway – northernmost tropical garden in the world



Alpine-Arctic Botanic Garden, Tromsø, Norway -northernmost botanic garden – 240 miles north of the Arctic Circle!