

Jan 2022 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

Happy New Year! Despite the challenges of COVID, we had a very successful 2021. While COVID is still with us, we have adjusted our operations to address the new environment. Vaccinations, masking and awareness of social distancing have allowed us to once again meet indoors in person. For those who are still uncomfortable meeting indoors, we have also put our meetings online where appropriate. This will become our new normal.



Holiday Social/Annual Meeting 5 Dec

Our Holiday Social was originally scheduled to be at the home of **Paul** and **Carolyn Beck**. Due to the difficulties in maintaining social distancing for a large number of attendees in a private home, it was decided to move the function to Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, which revised their COVID policies to allow the serving of food. **Carolyn** coordinated the potluck luncheon and with **Susan Bauer** and **David and Patsy Meadows**, brought decorations which members used to decorate the church hall and the dining tables.

We had an excellent turnout with 33 members and guests in attendance. There was also an ample supply of delicious food brought by our members. Thanks to all who attended.

This was also our annual meeting. The first item of business was the election of officers. The following members were elected to the positions shown for 2022:

Barbara Kirkwood – President

Ralph Habegger – Vice President

Paul Beck – Treasurer

Joanne Neckel – Secretary

Our treasurer, **Paul Beck** gave a report on the financial status of the chapter. His report is attached as an addendum to this message. The highlight was that we had a VERY successful year in raising funds through our plant sales. We grossed a total of \$15,051 through our various plant sales in 2021. The chapter also approved the budget for 2022.

Based on the recommendations of the Executive Committee and on input from the attendees, the following donations for 2021 were approved:

\$1,500 Green Springs Title 1 (subsidizes school visits for schools in low income areas)

\$1,615 for a bench for Jenkins Arboretum (this will have a plaque with the chapter name and will be in the Holly Springs Legacy Garden supported by the chapter.)

\$2,000 ASA General Fund

\$1,200 to Jenkins Arboretum

\$300 to Kirkwood Presbyterian in appreciation for the use of their hall and grounds for chapter activities. (This is in addition to \$200 which was previously approved by the Executive Committee).

Below are some photos from the Holiday Social.



Delicious collection of desserts – photo J. Neckel



Attendees enjoy a delicious meal with other chapter members



Judy Shapleigh visits the salad table



Carolyn Beck carves the ham photo J. Neckel

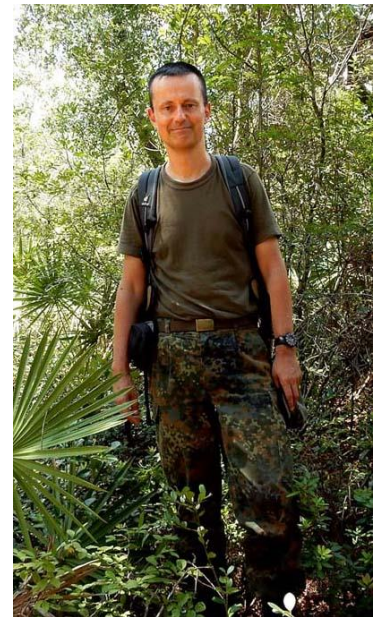


Paul Beck gives the treasurer's report



Outgoing and incoming Presidents – photo B. Reinke

Rhododendron austrinum in the Wild - 2 pm 30 January Dr. Ralf Bauer



Several ARS and ASA Chapters will be hosting a Zoom Lecture by **Dr. Ralf Bauer** on Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 2:00 PM. **Ralf** (pictured above) lives in Germany but is becoming a noted authority on the native azaleas and rhododendrons of the Eastern U.S. He will discuss his trips along scenic rivers in the Panhandle of Florida with native azalea expert **Ron Miller** (below) to study the native azalea, ***R. austrinum***. Few people are aware of the diversity of this species since much of its habitat is only accessible by boat. **Ralf** is an excellent photographer as evidenced by these photos taken from his PowerPoint presentation. Expect to see more gorgeous flowers and stunning scenery, but also companion plants and wildlife, too.

How to Connect

ARS Treasurer, **Dave Banks**, will handle the technical side of the Zoom connection. A few days prior to the event, we will provide a link and instructions on how to join the meeting.



**Save the Date:
January 30!**

- Potomac Valley Chapter ARS
- Middle Atlantic Chapter ARS
- Azalea Chapter ARS
- Mason-Dixon Chapter ARS
- Northern Virginia Chapter ASA



2022 ASA Convention Lafayette, LA 10-13 March 2022

After having to cancel the last two conventions due to COVID, the society will meet once again this year in Lafayette, LA. The convention committee has done a lot of planning to promote the beautiful venues in and around Lafayette. It should be a wonderful convention and it will be great to see old friends from different parts of the country. More information on the convention and the various venues is in the summer, fall and winter issues of **The Azalean**. Additional information on the convention is also available through the society website at <https://www.azaleas.org/convention-2022/>.



Lafayette Visitor's Center - photo D. Lanclos

Registration can be accomplished online or by mailing in a registration form with your payment. A copy of the registration form is located on the last page of this newsletter. A link for online registration is on the society homepage or at <https://www.azaleas.org/convention-registration/?id=48&sh=inline>.

All of you should have received (or will soon receive) ballots for society officers and for best article in **The Azalean** for 2021. These ballots are included in the mailing for the Winter issue of **The Azalean**.

Please fill these ballots out and send them to the Society Secretary, **Donna Palmer**, 1106 S. Evans Road South, White Hall, AR 71602-9430. Ballots should be mailed early enough to be received by 1 March 2022.

Sad News – Ann Mangels

We have just been notified that chapter member **Ann Mangels** passed away unexpectedly due to cardiac arrest on 31 December. **Ann** lived in Cockeysville, MD with her husband **Bill**. They have been members of the ASA for over 30 years. **Ann** was also a past president of the **American Rhododendron Society** and a Gold Medal recipient. **Ann** will be greatly missed by those who knew her. Our condolences go to **Bill** and the rest of the **Mangels** family.

Plant Sale Coordinator

The chapter is looking for a volunteer to be Plant Sale Coordinator. This individual's responsibilities are to coordinate, as necessary, with the venue where we will be conducting the sale and to be the central point of contact for soliciting volunteers and for disseminating necessary information to them. If you are interested in the position or would like more information, contact **Rick Bauer** at rickbauer@gmail.com or (757) 771-4446.

Membership Renewal

We are at the start of a new year. Unfortunately, we still have members who have not yet renewed their memberships for 2022. Your membership expiration date is on the mailing envelope of **The Azalean** or can be found on the ASA membership database.

If your membership expired, **PLEASE** take this time now to renew. Instructions for doing so are on the society's website at <https://www.azaleas.org/joinus/> or you can call **Paul Beck**, at (703) 860-5676 and renew over the phone.

Garden Photos

We welcome the submission of photos of our member’s gardens. While most photos are taken when gardens are in bloom in the spring and summer, garden foliage can also be beautiful, especially in the fall.

Thanks to **Barry Sperling** for sharing the photos below. All members are encouraged to submit photos of their gardens to **Rick Bauer** at rickfbauer@gmail.com.



Shade Bed



Japanese Maple



Japanese Maple



Panorama

Calendar of Upcoming Events –

Below is the schedule for 2022. The calendar is also available on the chapter website at <https://nv-asa.org/events>. A number of events have a date of TBD (to be determined). These events will occur, however final coordination has not yet been done on the scheduling.

Check the online chapter calendar for the latest updates.

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Jan 30 2pm	<u>Rhododendron austrinum in the Wild</u>	ARS/ASA	Zoom presentation
Mar 9-13	ASA Convention	ASA	Lafayette, LA
Mar 27	Meeting with speaker, plant exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
Apr 23	Bonsai Day	NV-ASA	Beck Home
April /May TBD	Dedication of Holly Springs Legacy Garden	Jenkins Arboretum	Devon, PA
April TBD	Member Open Garden	NV-ASA	Various

May 5-8	ARS Convention in Washington State	American Rhododendron Society	Vancouver, WA
May TBD	Member Open Garden	NV-ASA	Various
May TBD (tentative)	Meadowlark Plant Sale	NV-ASA	Meadowlark Gardens
May TBD (tentative)	Meadowlark Plant Sale	NV-ASA	Meadowlark Gardens
Jul 17	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
Sept 24	Fall Sale	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
Oct 30	Meeting with speaker	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
Oct 30	Executive Committee Mtg	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
Dec 4	Holiday Party	NV-ASA	Barb and John Kirkwood's Home

Other Activities/Notes –

Miscellaneous –

Photos for *The Azalea Clipper*/Facebook – We are 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 me your pictures at rickfbauer@gmail.com. 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 me at rickfbauer@gmail.com or 757-771-4446 if you have any questions. ***Clipper*** articles can also be the basis for later submissions to ***The Azalean*** (see below).

The Azalean – The editor of ***The Azalean*** depends 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.

Northern Virginia Chapter, Azalea Society of America
Treasurer's Report, January 1, 2021 – Dec 5, 2021

Balance as of 1/1/2021:

FVCB Savings.....	\$15,853.04
FVCB 5-yr CD.....	\$10,873.30
FVCB Checking.....	\$5,503.31
Total.....	\$32,229.65

Balance as of 10/24/2021:

FVCB Savings.....	\$25,870.04
FVCB 2-yr CD.....	\$11,085.30
FVCB Checking.....	\$3,934.35
Total.....	\$40,889.69¹

2021 Plant Sale Summary

Sale	Plants	Gross	Fees	Net
2021 Member Only Sales	446	\$6,350.00	\$0.00	\$6,350.00
2021 Bonsai Members Sale	93	\$1,713.00	\$0.00	\$1,713.00
2021 Fall Sale	170	\$2,620.00	\$0.00	\$2,620.00
2021 Meadowlark #1	156	\$2,641.00	\$264.10	\$2,376.90
2021 Meadowlark #2	102	\$1,727.00	\$172.70	\$1,554.30
Total	967	\$15,051.00	\$436.80	\$14,614.20

Significant 2021 Items

Plant sale revenue was \$15,051, or 150% of the \$10,000 budget. The **Member-Only** sale this year was online for the second year, and was very successful. The **Fall Sale** was outside only, and was a scaled-down version with no auction. The Fall plant sale revenue was \$2,620, or well over the \$1,000 budget. Meadowlark plant sales were \$4,368, far and above better than expected.

The propagation expense was \$3,596 against a budget of \$3,000. Part of the reason for the overrun is that some 2020 expenses (\$227.79) were not reimbursed in 2020. There were no plants purchased from White's in 2021, as he was unable to do cuttings for us in 2019.

The expenses for 2021 were significantly below budgeted, due to lack of plant sale expenses and significant reduction in printing expense for the Clipper.

Suggested Club Donations, to be voted upon at the business meeting:

Current cash on hand is **\$40,889.69**. Current obligations are \$11,685. That leaves approximately \$9,000 in discretionary funds (the historical guidance is to maintain \$20,000 as a cash reserve). Below are the suggested donations of \$6,615 for 2021. Last year we donated \$2,000 to Meadowlark, but this has not been spent. These donations can be made without drawing down the savings account. We are suggesting resuming the Green Spring Title I program in 2022. The remaining \$2,300 should be kept in reserve for the 2023 convention.

- \$2,000 Suggestions by membership
- \$1,000 Green Springs Title I
- \$1,615 Bench for Jenkins Arboretum
- \$2,000 ASA General Fund
- \$6,615 Total donations**

¹ Outstanding obligations of \$11,685 (NBG - \$1,230, Meadowlark - \$5,455, 2023 Convention, \$5,000).

**Registration Form for the 2022 National Azalea Society of America Convention
Hosted by the Louisiana Chapter of Azalea Society of America March 10–13, 2022**

Convention registration is open to all members of the Azalea Society of America (ASA), non-members who join ASA and guests to promote the goals of the ASA. Registration fee is \$250.00 per person and is due by February 1, 2022. This registration fee includes a full buffet breakfast for two on Friday, Saturday and Sunday mornings for those staying at the host hotel and the Friday and Saturday lunches and evening buffet dinners. All the events will be held at the Holiday Inn & Suites - Lafayette North.
Refunds for cancelations are: 100% before February 10, 2022.

Convention lodging will be at the Holiday Inn & Suites – Lafayette North, 2219 NW Evangeline Thruway, Lafayette, LA 70501. The special rate is \$95/night (plus 12.45% tax and lodging fee). Reservations should be made under the name of the Azalea Society of America Convention. Parking is Free.
Their phone number is (337) 706-8199. and their weblink is www.holidayinn.com/lafayettenorth.

**Shuttle options to and from Lafayette Regional Airport 24/7: City/Dixie Cab (337) 235-7515
Uber or Lyft: You must access Uber or Lyft options via a mobile phone app.**

Registration Application

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____ Non-Member _____

Chapter: _____ Other: _____

EVENT	PRICE	NUMBER ATTENDING	TOTAL
Registration fee per person	\$250.00		
ASA Membership fee	\$ 30.00		
TOTAL ENCLOSED			
Friday Lunch Options: Check/Circle Your Choice Below All will include water and beverage.			
Cajun Bayou Crawfish Etouffée (includes green beans, salad, bread pudding, beverage)			
Cajun Bayou Chicken Pasta (includes green beans, salad, bread pudding, beverage)			
Lunch Box with Fruit & Cookies** Chicken Caesar Wrap Box OR Turkey Club Wrap Box			

**If more than one person is registering on this form, please circle both choices.

Please list any special needs (meals, etc.) _____

Names on Badges: 1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____

Please register online at www.azaleas.org or mail check payable to ASA Louisiana Chapter. Thank You.

Mail to: James Greene Campbell III, Treasurer
16068 Riverside Drive
Covington, LA 70435

Any questions, please contact:
Denise Lanclos
(337) 277-7323
deniselanclos@cox.net