

## Jan 2023 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

Happy New Year! We just completed a very successful year for our chapter. Our plant sales continued to be successful, though the returns were slightly less than in previous years.



Carolyn Beck, David Meadows, Paul Beck, Ralph Habegger and John Kirkwood take a break from maintaining the Klimavicz Garden – photo B. Kirkwood

Finally, many chapter members were able to attend the culmination of the Holly Springs Legacy Garden development at Jenkins Arboretum in Devon, PA in May. We were happy to see the Holly Springs hybridizer and chapter member **Pete Vines**, and several friends and family in attendance. The chapter had been working with Jenkins and their project manager, **Jake Summers**, for several years, providing background information on the hybrids and donating and delivering Holly Springs plants to Jenkins.

We also delivered 123 Satsuki and 3 Kurume azaleas to Jenkins which were generously donated by chapter member **Mike White** of White's Nursery. These later blooming varieties will help Jenkins expand their bloom season.



Many of the convention attendees at Mouton House - photo C. Beck



We continued to support the Legacy Project in the chapter. We continued to work with the changing administration of Meadowlark Gardens to maintain and expand the Klimavicz Legacy Garden. We donated 74 Marshy Point azaleas to assist the Potomac Valley Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society in developing a Marshy Point Legacy Garden at Historic London Town and Gardens in Edgewater, MD.

We also provided 95 Glenn Dale azaleas to Norfolk Botanical Garden (NBG) in May. This was a continuation of an ongoing program which the chapter has been conducting with NBG for over a decade.



Jake and Pete relaxing on the bench, located in the Holly Springs Legacy Garden and donated by the NV-ASA in Pete's honor- photo S. Bauer

In March, several of our members traveled down to Lafayette, LA for the "annual" Azalea Society of America convention sponsored by the Louisiana Chapter of the ASA. It was the first "live" convention in three years since the previous two conventions were cancelled due to the COVID pandemic.

It was great seeing old friends again and we certainly enjoyed the gardens and the food!

Additional photos are at the end of this message. All photos are by **R. Bauer** unless otherwise stated.



### **Annual Meeting/Holiday Social 4 December**

Our annual meeting and holiday social was held at **Barb** and **John Kirkwood's** home on 4 December. We had a great turnout of members and delicious food provided by the attendees. Additionally, we were greeted by someone who suspiciously looked like Santa Claus! We thank **Barb** and **John** for hosting the social again this year.

During the Annual Meeting portion, we elected chapter officers for 2023. All of the current officers were reelected for an additional term. We thank them for agreeing to serve an additional term.

President – Barbara Kirkwood  
Vice President – Ralph Habegger  
Treasurer – Paul Beck  
Secretary – Joanne Neckel

The attendees approved the budget for 2023 and the chapter donations for 2022. The following donations were approved:

\$1000 Green Springs Title 1  
\$2000 Jenkins Arboretum  
\$2000 ASA general fund  
\$300 Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Additional photos are at the end of this message.

### **ASA/ARS Convention 19-23 April, Dunwoody, GA**



The next annual convention is a collaboration between the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Azalea Society of America and the Azalea Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. It will be held in Dunwoody, GA, north of the Atlanta area.

The hotel is in a location easily reached by car and by public transportation. The nearest MARTA (similar to the Washington Metro) station is a block from the hotel and a shuttle will run from the hotel to the station for those attendees not wanting to walk.

Additionally, there is a large shopping mall with a number of restaurants located a little over a block from the

The Japanese garden at Gibbs Gardens Photo: Pim Rust

hotel. This will provide additional dining options in addition to those at the hotel.

Information on the convention itself is on the society [webpage](#) and in the [winter issue of \*The Azalean\*](#) which is currently available online. The latter requires you to login. Finally, there is a very good [video](#) about the convention on the website.

The hardcopy registration form is currently [online](#). Online registration will be available in early January.

We hope you will attend this convention. We have a great program with some beautiful gardens being visited. The chapter is responsible for the plant sale and registration. As a sponsoring chapter, we hope you'll assist us in conducting both activities.

### **Membership Renewal**

It's that time of year again! Many of our chapter members have memberships which expired on 31 December. Those members in that category should have received a message from the society treasurer advising them that they needed to renew their membership. Additionally, your membership expiration date is on the envelope containing the winter issue of ***The Azalean***. Please renew your membership as soon as possible. We hope you renew your membership, however if you do not intend on renewing, please contact **Paul Beck** at [pabeck@gmail.com](mailto:pabeck@gmail.com) so that we don't have to keep bothering you with reminders.

Membership dues are \$30.00 per year with ***The Azalean*** in hard copy, and \$25.00 for online-only access to ***The Azalean***. There are various ways of paying your dues which are shown on the society website at <https://www.azaleas.org/joinus/>. Memberships can easily be renewed by calling our treasurer, **Paul Beck** at 703-209-2219 and providing a credit card number. You may also mail your membership renewal check, made out to **ASA**, to:

Paul Beck, Treasurer  
Azalea Society of America  
2963 Fort Lee St  
Oak Hill, VA 20171-1812

### **New Members**

The chapter would like to welcome **Bryan** and **Heather Kurey**. The **Kureys** live in North Potomac, MD.

### **Chapter Volunteers Needed.**

We still have one open volunteer position we are trying to fill:

**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. This will take a couple hours in the spring (the Executive Committee has decided not to have a fall sale in 2023).

If you can spare a few hours in the spring, contact **Barb Kirkwood** at 703-268-6958 or [kirkwoodb@aol.com](mailto:kirkwoodb@aol.com).

### **Calendar of Upcoming Events –**

Below is the schedule for 2023. The calendar is also available on the chapter website at <https://nv-asa.org/events>.

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Mar 26	Meeting w/speaker	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
19-23 Apr	ASA/ARS Convention	ASA/ARS	Dunwoody, GA
26 April and 6 May Rain dates 27 Apr and 7 May	Meadowlark Sale	NV-ASA	Meadowlark Gardens, Vienna
End of May	Sale to Bonsai Society	NV-ASA	Beck's House
16 July	Cutting Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
Oct 22 or 29 (TBD)	Meeting w/speaker	NV-ASA PVC-ARS	TBD
Dec 3	Holiday Social/Annual Meeting	NV-ASA	TBD

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.



Girard Park, Lafayette, LA - photo B. Kirkwood



Rookery at Avery Island, LA - photo C. Beck



Cypress Lake, University of Louisiana, Lafayette



Steve Wright and Pete Vines at Jenkins Arboretum



Barb Kirkwood presents Jake Summers with a Certificate of Appreciation at Jenkins



Lunch at the Jenkins House, Jenkins Arboretum



Jeff Vines, Pete Vines, Rick Bauer, and Jake Summers, who is discussing the Holly Springs Legacy Garden plans- photo S. Bauer



Lars Larson delivers Glenn Date azaleas to Les Parks, Director of Horticulture at Norfolk Botanical Garden



Barb Kirkwood at Meadowlark Plant Sale – photo C. Beck



Large Collection of Azaleas for Sale at Meadowlark - photo C. Beck



Santa Kirkwood with Kathy Jentz



Chapter President Barb Kirkwood presides over the Annual Meeting



Richard and Ginny Mohr enjoying the delicious selection of dishes at the Holiday Social



David Meadows slices the ham for Don Hyatt