

Feb 2023 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

We're starting to see the first signs of spring in the Tidewater area of Virginia with daffodils starting to bloom in the road medians in Gloucester. Spring can't be far behind.

Spring is also the start of prime time for our chapter and the society. In the next few months we have our first chapter meeting of the year, our annual convention in Dunwoody, GA and our plant sales. Hopefully you'll be able to participate in these events.

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



Monet Bridge at Gibbs Gardens - photo C. Andrews

Additionally, there is a large shopping mall with a number of restaurants located a little over a block from the 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*](#). 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 is available at this [link](#).

Early registration helps immensely in the planning process for the convention. To encourage early registration, all registrations submitted by 15 February will be entered into a drawing for reimbursement of one night's lodging at the convention Marriott. You should have received an email on this drawing from Society President Charlie Andrews.

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 support us by your attendance and assistance.**

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.



Marriott Atlanta Perimeter Center

Chapter Meeting 26 March 1pm Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

The first meeting of the year will be at Kirkwood Presbyterian and will be a joint meeting with the Potomac Valley Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. Chris Schmidt, Chief Arborist at Blandy Experimental Farm, who will give us a talk on Blandy Arboretum, including the history of Blandy. It promises to be a very interesting presentation.

Many of our long-time members will remember the chapter participating in Blandy's plant sale in 2010.

More information will be in the March issue of ***The Azalea Clipper***. We hope you'll be able to join us.

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 so that we don't have to keep bothering you with reminders.

Membership dues stateside are \$30.00 per year with ***The Azalean*** in hard copy (US\$45 for Canada and US\$60 for overseas), and \$25.00 for online-only access to ***The Azalean***. Our society website at <https://www.azaleas.org/joinus/> shows the various ways of paying for memberships. Memberships can also 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

Please renew no later than 15 February to insure you receive your copy of the Spring issue of *The Azalean*.

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.



Chapter President Eve Harrison at our Blandy Arboretum sale tent in 2010.

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 1pm	Meeting w/speaker Chris Schmidt	NV-ASA/PVC- ARS	Kirkwood Presbyterian
19-23 Apr	ASA/ARS Convention	ASA/ARS	Dunwoody, GA
29 April and 6 May Rain dates 30 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	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. 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.