

Aug 2023 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

Most of us are sweltering through unusual summer heat. It looks like it will be with us for a while, unfortunately. Hopefully you're able to keep up with your gardening in this oppressive heat.

Chapter Plant Cutting and Plant Exchange 16 July

The chapter's annual cutting exchange was held on 16 July at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church. We also had an impressive plant exchange which included a large number of azaleas from our chapter inventory (much of it propagated and raised by **Carolyn Beck**), as well as a great collection of companion plants brought by chapter members. We also had an ample collection of snacks and other refreshments coordinated and provided by **Sue Hedrick**.



Chapter President **Barb Kirkwood** welcomed the 28 attendees and brought us up to date on a number of issues. She told us the Atlanta convention was a great event. The chapter had primary responsibility for the highly successful plant sale. Treasurer **Paul Beck** stated that the convention finances are still being finalized, but it looked like the chapter's share of convention revenue will be in the area of \$7500. The 2024 convention will be held in Auburn, Alabama from 2-4 April.



Barb Kirkwood welcomes the attendees



Deciduous azaleas available for sale



Cuttings for the exchange



Some of the plants in the plant exchange

Barb also gave an update on the **Margaret White** property disposition. Margaret was a former member of the chapter who gave her 13 acre property to Fairfax County for use as a public park. The county was ready to take action which would have effectively removed the property

from public access. Based on public input against this action, the county changed course and now will work to improve the property for public access.

Chapter Vice President **Ralph Habegger** commenced the plant and cutting exchange. This was open to all attendees whether they contributed plants or not. Many attendees departed with a carload of azaleas and companion plants.

Chapter Officers for 2024

None of the chapter activities would be possible without the work of our chapter officers. Officers' terms are for a calendar year. We are now looking for volunteers to run for the chapter leadership positions in 2024.

The positions which are voted on at the annual meeting in December are president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary. All positions are up for election this December and are open to all members.

Of particular importance is the position of vice-president. The duties of the position are:

1. Serves as a member of the Executive Committee in accordance with the by-laws
2. Performs the duties of president in the president's absence
3. *Schedules facilities and coordinates the programs for the Chapter meetings.*
4. Provides input to the annual budget.
5. In conjunction with the Executive Committee, develops the schedule for the following year for submission to the Chapter members.

Of all the duties above, the **primary duty is to coordinate the scheduling of two speakers per year** and to oversee the programs of three meetings per year. Scheduling of the Kirkwood Presbyterian Church is done through **Lars Larson** and is normally done at the beginning of the calendar year. It's not an onerous job, but an important one.

The success of the chapter depends on the participation and support of **all members**. As with many organizations, these duties have fallen upon a small group of people in the past. We would like to get more members involved.

If you are interested in serving as vice-president (or any other elected position) or need additional information, contact **Rick Bauer** at rickfbauer@gmail.com by 1 September.

Garden Photos – October meeting

We are planning to put together a presentation of chapter member garden photos for the fall meeting. We will put the provided photos together into one presentation for the meeting. You may submit any number of photos you desire, but we're looking for a minimum of 10-15 pictures per garden/collection.

If you are planning on making a submission, please contact Rick Bauer at rickfbauer@gmail.com by 15 August. Photos should be submitted by 15 September. Members may narrate and present their own photos. If you don't want to get up in front of the group, please provide descriptive narratives to go with each photo.

Depending on how many submissions we get, we will adjust the number of photos per garden for the meeting presentation.

While the focus can be on azaleas, it's not absolutely necessary and any other plants are fine - it will be interesting to see various photos. Topics might include:

- Garden development over the years
- My favorite azaleas/plants in bloom
- Rare or unusual azaleas or other plants
- Largest or smallest azaleas (flowers or plants)
- Hybrids a member has developed
- or any other topic a member would like to include.

New Members

We gained a new chapter member at the cutting exchange. We would like to welcome **Hiep Pham** to the chapter. He lives in Falls Church, VA.

Azalea Foster Homes Needed

We have an abundance of plants from various sources, including the convention, and our propagation efforts. We need to find a couple of members who would be willing to “foster” some plants until we can get them to sale. Care is pretty easy. They need a shady or afternoon shade area and some occasional water if Mother Nature does not provide. Even a rank amateur can be highly successful at this task and even a small space will help us out for a few months. If you have some space and can loan it out to us, please contact **Barb Kirkwood** at 703-268-6958 or kirkwoodb@aol.com .

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 midway point of contact for soliciting volunteers and for disseminating necessary information to them. This will take a couple of 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.

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
Oct 22	Meeting w/Garden presentations	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
Dec 3	Holiday Social/Annual Meeting	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian

Other Activities/Notes –

ASA Apparel

Attendees at the recent ASA/ARS Joint Convention were given the opportunity to order t-shirts, polo shirts, short and long sleeve denim shirts and caps with the ASA logo.

Some of our members may still be interested in ordering ASA articles. Information on available items is located below:

- a. T-shirts (Kelly Green, \$15)
- b. Polo shirts (Blue Lake, \$35)
- c. Short sleeve denim shirts (Faded Blue, \$35)
- d. Long sleeve denim shirts (Faded Blue, \$40)
- e. Ball caps (True Navy, \$20)

For each item, please identify

- 1. Item
- 2. Quantity
- 3. Ladies' or men's (ball cap unisex)
- 4. Size (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)
- 5. Logo (ASA)
- 6. Name (optional, \$5 extra)

Shipping is extra. Send your order to Sew Simple Embroidery <sewsimpleusa@yahoo.com>.



ASA-flowers-curvedtext-200



LPC54



LSP11



PC54



SP10



SP11



ST650



STC10



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.