

February 2024 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

We're halfway through winter and will be starting up our spring activities before long. Our first chapter meeting will be 17 March, however the society convention is coming up 2-4 April. We already have a good number of chapter members signed up to attend. You are encouraged to join us. Information on the convention is in the message below.



Meeting with Speaker 17 March 1:30 – 4:00 pm Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Mark your calendars. Our first meeting of the year will be on 17 March. Our speaker will be chapter member **Dr. Ajit Thakur**, who will be speaking about Kurume azaleas. **Ajit** is an expert on Kurume and Satsuki azaleas. Several years ago, he gave an excellent presentation on Satsuki azaleas to a joint meeting of the Northern Virginia Chapter and the Potomac Valley Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. This presentation should be equally interesting.



Akemi no Tsuki - photo **Jim Trumbly**

For those members (and others) unable to attend the meeting in person, it will be available via Zoom. Instructions for viewing will be provided in the March issue of ***The Azalea Clipper***.

Membership Renewal

Memberships are on a calendar year basis, ending on 31 December. We are starting a new year. Unfortunately, we have members who have not yet renewed their memberships for 2024. Your membership expiration date is on the mailing envelope of ***The Azalean*** or can be found on the ASA membership database.

If your membership has 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 **Pat Insley**, at (703) 597-7539 and renew over the phone.

The Society does offer a subscription plan where you are billed automatically through PayPal each year without any further action on your part. You can cancel at any time. You may sign up for this option on the website <https://www.azaleas.org/joinus/>.

Azalea Society of America Convention – Auburn, AL 2-4 April

The Society annual convention this year is sponsored by the Alabamense Chapter of the ASA and will be held in Auburn, AL. This looks to be an outstanding convention with beautiful gardens (including Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, GA) and excellent speakers (including our own **Joe Klimavicz**).

If you've been to a convention before, you know that they are a lot of fun and educational. It's also great to get together with old friends and meet new ones from around the country (and the world). If you haven't been to a convention yet, this is an excellent opportunity.

The convention preview is at <https://play.soundslides.com/885wYRKR>. The website for the convention is <https://azaleas.org/convention-2024/>. **Early registration has been extended to 1 March.**

Garden Photos

In past years we have featured photos from members' gardens in both the monthly message and ***The Azalea Clipper***. If you have photos of your garden which you are willing to share, send them to the Corresponding Editor at rickbauer@gmail.com.

Helen Li has provided us a link to a YouTube clip on Sakura Season in Yangmingshan National Park, Taiwan. While it doesn't deal with azaleas, it provides a beautiful tour of the garden during their cherry blossom season.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPAXcZ-vjtQ>



McWhorter Garden

Laura Grant has provided us some beautiful springtime photos of her garden in Toronto.



Az. Lake Superior



Az. balsaminiflora



Laburnum



Various azalea varieties



Garden Entrance

New Members

We welcome **Rick Johnson** to the chapter. **Rick** is from Boston, VA.

Azalea Foster Homes Needed

We have an abundance of 6000 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.

Calendar of Upcoming Events –

Below is the schedule for 2024. Additions and deletions will be made as changes occur.

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Mar 17 1:30-4pm	Meeting with speaker	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
Apr 2-4	National Convention	ASA	Auburn, Alabama
Apr 27	Azalea Sale	NV-ASA	Meadowlark Garden
May 4	Azalea Sale	NV-ASA	Meadowlark Garden
May 17	Azalea sale to Bonsai Society	NV-ASA	Beck house
Jul 14 1:30-4 pm	Cutting and Plant Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
Sep 21	Fall Azalea Sale	NV-ASA	Beck House
Oct 6 1:30-4 pm	Fall Meeting w Speaker and Plant Exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
Dec 8 1-4 pm	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian

Other Activities/Notes –

Satsukis for Sale – Chapter member **Lewie Phillips** has rooted Satsuki azalea cuttings for sale. Rooted in 2.25" pots. There are too many varieties to list. Email him for a list and pricing at dr.lewie@yahoo.com.

Carla Azaleas Wanted – **Lewie Phillips** is also looking for any/all Carla varieties, either in pots or cuttings. If you can provide either, contact him at dr.lewie@yahoo.com.

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.