

August 2024 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

This has been a hotter than normal summer with a shortfall of rain. This puts a bigger strain on us gardeners as we try to keep up with watering our plants. Unfortunately, many of us have also experienced a higher level of plant attrition than usual.



Fortunately, the weather has recently turned a little cooler with a lot more rain. Hopefully this is a trend that continues through the remainder of the summer.

Cutting and Plant Exchange – 14 July

We had a great turnout at our annual cutting and plant exchange in July. Attendees interested in azalea propagation were able to select from a variety of cuttings donated by other chapter members. Additionally, there were a large number of azaleas and companion plants available in the plant exchange. Contributing plants to the exchange is not a prerequisite for obtaining plants. Every attendee has the opportunity to select plants to add to their collections.

We also had the opportunity to hear garden presentations from two chapter members. These presentations were originally scheduled last October, but were deferred due to lack of time. **Rick Bauer** gave a presentation discussing the development of the Bauer Garden in Yorktown, Virginia. For those of you who were unable to view the presentation, there is a similar one on YouTube at this [link](#).

Joanne Neckel gave a presentation on their garden, with particular emphasis on the beautiful gazebo they built.

Additional photos are at the end of this message.

New Members

The chapter would like to welcome **Robert Bruce** from Wayne, PA. We'd also like to welcome **Greg** and **Saerina Stropko** of Springfield, VA.



Rick Bauer gives a presentation on the Bauer Garden - photo Kathy Jentz



Joanne Neckel gives a presentation on the Neckel Garden - photo Kathy Jentz

2025 ASA National Convention – Brandywine Valley, PA 7-9 May 2025



Attendees explore the newly dedicated Holly Springs Legacy Garden – photo R. Bauer

It's not too early to start thinking about next year's ASA convention in Pennsylvania. Our friends at Jenkins Arboretum in Deven, PA have graciously offered to sponsor this convention. For the information of new members, we have had a great relationship with Jenkins over the past few years and have worked closely with them to establish a Holly Springs Legacy Garden and also to increase their inventory of Satsuki azaleas. The co-chairs of the convention, **Steve Wright** and **Tara Spears** are also members of the Northern Virginia Chapter.

The dates for the convention are May 7-9. Put it on your calendar. There are some beautiful gardens on the agenda including Winterthur, Jenkins and Chanticleer. More information will be available in the near future. You can get a preview at this [link](#).

Garden Photos

In past years we have featured photos from members' gardens in both the monthly message and ***The Azalea Clipper***. Don't be shy...if you have photos of your garden which you are willing to share, send them to the corresponding editor at rickfbauer@gmail.com.

Calendar of Upcoming Events –

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

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Sep 14 (rain date 15 Sep)	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 –

Pots Available – Carolyn Beck has a large number of 4-inch pots and 15-cell trays to share. If you are interested in any of these items, contact **Carolyn** at carolyn.f.beck@gmail.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***. We are also always looking for articles for ***The Azalea Clipper***. They can be on any azalea related subject (e.g., gardens (public or private), hybridizers,

companion plants etc.). Please consider writing an article. Contact **Rick Bauer** at rickfbauer@gmail.com or 757-771-4446 if you have any questions.

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.

Chapter meeting photos - continued.



Members enjoy the refreshments



Cuttings in the exchange- photo K. Jentz



Plant Exchange – photo K. Jentz



Plant Exchange – photo K. Jentz