

The Azalea Clipper

Next Chapter Event:

The next chapter event will be the annual cutting exchange.

Carolyn Beck will be giving a presentation on their garden. The presentation will be broadcast via Zoom. We will also have a plant exchange.

It will be held 13 July 1:30-4 pm at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church.

We're on the Web!

<https://www.nv-as-a.org>

The Northern Virginia Chapter web page is a great source for late breaking news, such as weather-related cancellations.

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Cutting Exchange and Beck Garden Presentation 1:30 - 4:00 pm 13 July Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Our next meeting will be our annual cutting exchange. In addition to the exchange, **Carolyn Beck** will be giving a presentation on the Beck Garden. Their garden is incredible with hundreds of azaleas, rhododendron and companion plants. The presentation will also be broadcast via Zoom. Instructions for viewing are at the end of this message.

Our members have a large variety of azaleas, many of which are rare and hard to find. The cutting exchange allows us to share cuttings of these varieties for other members to propagate.

We will also have our ever-popular plant exchange. Many of us, especially those with mature gardens, have extra volunteer plants we don't have room for. This is the ideal opportunity to share these plants with other members. Instructions for labeling these plants is at the end of this message also.

We hope you'll be able to join us!



"My Mary" in the Beck Garden – photo R. Bauer



Cuttings displayed for the exchange – photo K. Jentz

President's Message

We are at the halfway point of the year and what a year it has been. We had spring weather in December and then a roller coaster of temperatures hitting in the 80s and plunging to O.

And then the monsoons hit in June. The plants have been confused. I have been confused. It took a real toll on our club plants everywhere from Mike White's Nursery to those we have housed in our various member yards. I am hoping for some more typical and plant friendly weather for the rest of the year.

We are also at a point where we must look at options for leadership for next year. I have loved working with the Azalea Society chapter and will tell you that we have a membership of absolutely phenomenal people, both horticulturally and socially. They have supported me and gifted me with knowledge and help. They will embrace the next people who volunteer for our leadership and will continue that support as we strive to keep our organization fresh and strong. I have asked a number of members who regularly attend to consider stepping forward and leading our group. Please let me know of your interest.

Among the suggestions at our recent conference and board meeting was a recommendation that we all try to engage with the public on our social media platforms. In order to continue as an organization, we must continue to gather in more active members, and this is one way to attract them. There is not enough excitement in my yard to warrant a program for one of our meetings, but I can certainly take a few photos of beautiful plants in my yard that we can post on Facebook. And I am sure each of you can come up with a photo or two to share. As a start, would you please send me your photo(s) and I will try to make sure I post something. I will assume anything you are willing to put on our Facebook page is also something you would be willing to share in our newsletter. My last activity was announcing the sale in April, so I need to ramp up our game. Help me out.



Azalea Society of America Convention

Last month we reported on the ASA convention hosted by Jenkins Arboretum. Those of us who attended can attest to the fact that it was a very well planned and organized convention with some beautiful gardens, good food and great camaraderie. It was also successful financially, both for Jenkins Arboretum and the Northern Virginia Chapter (which provided many of the plants for the plant sale). The proceeds from the sale of chapter plants were \$5649.50. Jenkins generously picked up the tab for the tax and credit card fees and provided the labor for selling the plants.

Once again, the chapter and the society are grateful for all the work done by **Steve Wright, Tara Spears** and the rest of the staff at Jenkins.

We published some photos from the convention last month. Below are additional photos from Wyn-Eden. Other photos from the convention are at the end of this message.



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 editor at rickfbauer@gmail.com.

Todd Williams provided these photos of his garden.



Wrenwood Big Bird OP from Carolyn Beck



Orange Carpet, Jake's Red, and Candy Stripe

New Members

We welcome **Lachelle** and **Phillip Castellana** to the chapter. The **Castellanas** live in Leesburg, VA.

Klimavicz Legacy Garden at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens

The chapter has developed and maintained the Klimavicz Legacy Garden at Meadowlark for several years. During this time, we have worked through various changes in management and staff. The new horticulturist at Meadowlark is **Ben Anderson**.

Chapter members will be meeting with him in early July to coordinate legacy garden maintenance and expansion plans. More information will be provided in future newsletters.

Calendar for 2025

Date	Event	Organization	Location
Sunday 13 July 1:30 – 4pm	Cutting Exchange and Beck Garden Presentation	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
Saturday 20 September	Plant Sale	NV-ASA	Beck Home
Sunday 2 November	Fall Meeting with speaker Kathy Jentz	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
Sunday 7 December	Holiday Social and Annual Meeting	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian

Zoom session login information

To join the meeting via Zoom, click on the link below and login with the meeting ID and Passcode.

NV-ASA Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/8930825140?pwd=OVhNdjhHaWpaamNGR1IQWkVEa2xxdz09>

Meeting ID: 893 082 5140

Passcode: TS7E4i

Taking Cuttings

Select cuttings from new growth found at the terminal branch ends (avoid branches that have produced "sport" blossoms uncharacteristic of the named variety). Collect cuttings after the stems are fully mature, but before they turn woody. The parent plants must be in good health. A good time to take the cuttings is in the early morning. If drought conditions are present, water the plants well the evening before. Select stems of medium diameter rather than thin weak wood. Place cuttings (4 to 6) from each plant in a separate plastic bag (identified by the parent variety) along with a few drops of water, and seal it to retain 100% humidity inside. Print the name of the plant variety on the outside of the bag, along

with a short description of the plant. Avoid overheating of cuttings from direct sunlight. Cuttings should be stuck in the rooting medium as soon as possible after taking the cuttings, but they can be stored in a closed container in the refrigerator for up to a week. name, hybridizer, flower description and "cutter" would help a lot!

Preparing Plants for the Plant Exchange

The plant exchanges provide an excellent venue for parting with your excess plants and for adding additional varieties to your collection. Plants should be watered before donating, though not overly wet (i.e., no dripping of water from the container). Please label them with the name of the plant and the donor (the latter is in case someone has questions about the plant).

Directions to Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

8336 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield, VA 22152

From the East: Rte **95** exit **169B, Franconia Rd West**, which becomes **Old Keene Mill Rd** (Rte 644) about 3 miles, passing **Irving Middle School**, to a **Right** at a light on **Carrleigh Parkway**. Make a U-turn at **Dabney Avenue**

From the West: **Fairfax County Parkway** (Rte 286)
East on **Old Keene Mill Rd** (Rte 644) about **3.5 miles**, passing **Rolling Road** to **Left** at a light on **Carrleigh Parkway**; Make a U-turn at **Dabney Avenue**.

Additional Convention Photos



Pete Vines w/Dave Nanney and Rick Bauer at the banquet – photo William C. Miller III



Exterior of Winterthur mansion – photo William C. Miller III



l-r Karel Bernady, Don Hyatt, Carol Segree, Nettie Bernady and George McLellan at Winterthur – photo R. Bauer



Rick Bauer presents Barb Kirkwood with the Distinguished Service Award – photo William C. Miller III



Jenkins Arboretum – photo R. Bauer



Banquet Hall - photo William C. Miller III



Chanticleer – photo R. Bauer



Mt. Cuba – photo R. Bauer