

November 2025 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

We're approaching the end of another year and are in the process of planning for the coming year. The Executive Committee met on 26 October to develop the calendar and budget for next year and to put together the slate of officers for 2026 and recommendations for chapter donations for 2025. This information, when finalized, will be in the December *Azalea Clipper* and be voted on by the general membership at the Holiday Social/Annual Meeting in December.



We're on the Web!
<https://www.nv-asa.org>

It is frequently difficult to find members who are willing to serve in leadership positions. The group of chapter officers over the past several years has been comprised of a small group of members who have served for multiple terms and sometimes in multiple positions. Two such members are **Barbara Kirkwood** who has served multiple terms as chapter vice president and later as president and **Joanne Neckel** who has served many years as chapter secretary. We thank them for their service.

Our next chapter event is our meeting on 2 November with speaker **Kathy Jentz**. We hope you can attend either in person or via Zoom.

Chapter meeting with presentation by Kathy Jentz on Ground Covers for Azaleas and Rhododendron on 2 November 1:30 -4pm –
NOTE: Daylight Savings Time Ends 2 Nov – set clocks back one hour

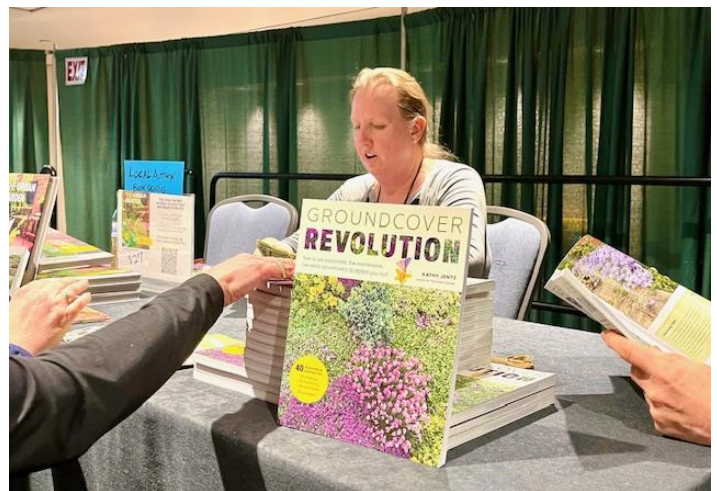
Our next meeting will feature a presentation by Chapter member and editor of the society journal, *The Azalean*, **Kathy Jentz**. **Kathy's** presentation will be on Ground Covers for Azaleas and Rhododendron.

In addition to *The Azalean*, **Kathy** is the editor and publisher of the award-winning *Washington Gardener Magazine*. She is also the editor of two other plant society journals, *Water Garden Journal* (IWGS) and *Fanfare* (Daylily Society Region 3). She hosts the popular *GardenDC Podcast*.

Kathy has presented programs at Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, the Philadelphia Flower Show, U.S. Botanic Garden, the History Society of Washington, DC and many other venues.

In addition to the presentation, we will have a selection of ground covers available for a nominal cost. A list of plants available for sale is at the end of this newsletter. **Kathy** will also have copies of her book *Groundcover Revolution* to sign and sell - they are \$27 each and she can take card, Apple Pay, check, cash, etc. She will also sign copies of the book if someone bought them elsewhere and wants to bring theirs to the meeting.

The presentation will be broadcast via Zoom **starting at 2pm EST** and will be recorded for later viewing. Instructions for access are at the end of this newsletter.



Kathy signs copies of her book

Klimavicz Legacy Garden Workdays and Signage– Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, Vienna, VA

The chapter has worked with Meadowlark Botanical Gardens for several years in developing and maintaining a legacy garden of **Joe Klimavicz's** azaleas. The garden continues to mature as we help maintain the existing plantings and are making plans for future expansion.

The chapter held a workday at Meadowlark on 21 October. Volunteers weeded, inserted Repellex tablets (deer deterrent) around each azalea and spread mulch on the existing bed. Thanks go to **David Meadows, Dave Nanney, Hiep Pham, and Paul and Carolyn Beck** for their efforts in maintaining the garden.

Barb Kirkwood has been working closely with the garden for several years through several changes in leadership. The most recent efforts are in developing signage for the garden. Below is the draft signage for the garden which gives the background of the Klimavicz hybrids, the society concept of the Legacy Gardens and the support provided by the chapter in creating and maintaining the garden. We need to provide a higher resolution photo for the large photo. After this is done in the spring, we can finalized the signage.



ENVIRONMENTAL INTERPRETIVE SERIES

Klimavicz Azalea Legacy Garden

A Local Legacy Takes Root
The azaleas in this garden were developed by Joe Klimavicz, a passionate plant hybridizer based in Vienna, Virginia. Since the late 1980's, Joe has been developing exceptional azaleas known for their vigor, pest and disease resistance, and striking, long-lasting blooms set against vibrant evergreen foliage.

Hybridizing for Beauty and Resilience
Each year, Joe crosses approximately 10 different azalea varieties, resulting in up to 1,000 unique cultivars. From this large and diverse group, only the most outstanding are selected, named, and introduced—a testament to the meticulous standards to which each plant is held.

Preserving a Legacy of Innovation
The Azalea Legacy Project was established to preserve the unique contributions of individual azalea hybridizers. The Klimavicz Legacy Garden stands as a living tribute to Joe's work, made possible through the generous donations and support of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Azalea Society of America, in partnership with Meadowlark Botanical Gardens. To learn more, select Klimavicz at Azaleas.org/legacy.

Antoinette Martin **Mary Lou Dority** **Bob Stewart**

NOVA PARKS
To learn more about flora and fauna in Northern Virginia regional parks, visit novaparks.com/Environment

Holiday Social/Annual Meeting – 7 December 1- 4:30 pm Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

The chapter will hold our holiday social/annual meeting at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church on 7 December. This will be a potluck dinner with the main meat dish provided by the chapter. We will also have our annual meeting where we will review the chapter finances, and vote on the budget and officers for 2026, end of year donations for 2025.



The items to be voted on will be provided to chapter members in the December *Azalea Clipper* which will be published prior to Thanksgiving. Put this on your calendar. It is always a great time with delicious food.

If you desire to RSVP for this event, you can do so using SignUpGenius at the link below: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4FA4AC29A7FF2-45672909-holiday>.

Under Available Slot/I will be attending, click **"Sign Up."** It will change to Selected and a red bar with a Save and Continue button will appear at the bottom of the page. On the next page, in My Comments, add what you plan to bring, and under Quantity, add the number of people from your family who will be attending. If you do not know what you plan to bring yet, please add a general category such as Salad, Side dish, Drinks, or Dessert. A ham will be provided. Add your name, a phone number, and an email if you wish SignUpGenius to send you a reminder on December 1, a week before our gathering on December 7. Signing up on your phone may be more difficult.

You will then see a page that thanks you, lists the number attending and what you will bring. **You are then done!** At that point a variety of ads will pop up offering free trials. You can just close out SignUpGenius or click NO on each of the offerings. Sorry, this is the price of using Free apps.

Your name, number attending, and what you will bring will appear when others are signing up. Neither your phone number nor email address will appear. Only Barb will be able to see that information.

We can begin decorating the room at Kirkwood Presbyterian on December 7 at noon. Our scheduled start time for the social is 1:00, so we will need many helping hands to set up and decorate AND take everything down. Come along and join in the fun.

If you have any questions, contact **Barb Kirkwood** at 703-268-6958 or **Diane Marcus** at (301) 983-1098.

Bowie Mills Cuttings Needed

Rick Edwards, the legacy lead for the Bowie Mills azaleas, is still looking for five varieties of Bowie Mills. If you have these varieties and can send him cuttings, please contact him at rickedwards098@gmail.com.

1. Aunt Bess
2. Debbie Beth
3. Dorothy King
4. Layne Ashlee
5. Susan Lynn

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 rckfbauer@gmail.com.

We have no photos of member gardens to show this month, however your editor recently

toured a garden which might be of interest to our members. The French impressionist painter, **Claude Monet**, created a garden studio in Giverny, France. He created water features and the plantings which he then used as the inspiration for many of his paintings.





2025 Calendar of Upcoming Events –

Date	Event	Organization	Location
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

Other Activities/Notes –

Satsukis for Sale - Chapter associate member **Lewie Phillips** has Satsuki azaleas for sale. His website is satsukionline.com.

Glenn Dale and other Azaleas for Sale - Chapter associate member **Ronnie Palmer** owns Azalea Hill Nursery in White Hall, Arkansas. He has a large number of Glenn Dale azaleas as well as other Legacy varieties for sale. His website is <https://azaleahillgardens-arkansas.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 authoring 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*** relies on member submissions of articles of interest to the general **ASA** membership. If you have an article to share, send it to theazalean@gmail.com. Articles should be submitted in Microsoft Word. Illustrations are highly encouraged and should be at least 4 x 6 inches at 300 dpi.

Groundcovers for sale, November 2nd NV Meeting

Sedum John Creech
Sedum Angelina
Viola pedate Eco Artist Patette
Viola walteri
Viola Sylvia Hart
Ajuga Chocolate Chip
Ajuga Princess Leia
Astilbe Sprite
Pulmonaria Trevi Fountain
Hosta Tiny Tears

Hosta Pandora's Box
Geranium Max Frei OP
Epimedium Red Maximum
Thalictrum kiusianum
Lysimachia japonica var. minutissima
Heuchera Forever Purple (Coral Bells)
Lamium purpureum Orchid Frost
Heuchera Spearmint (Coral Bells)
Mitchella repens (Partridgeberry)
Saxifraga stolonifera (Strawberry Begonia)

Zoom session login information

To join the meeting via Zoom, click on the link below:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/8930825140?pwd=OVhNdjhHaWpaamNGR1lQWkVEa2xxdz09>

Note: The Zoom presentation will commence at 2 pm EST. In order to preserve integrity of our Zoom meetings, from now on you must have your full name on your Zoom session. In order to check or change your name, DO NOT click on the link above; instead, launch the Zoom app first. On the Home tab, under the Sign In button, click on the "Join a meeting" link. In the first field, enter the meeting ID 893 082 5140. In the field under the meeting ID, enter your FULL NAME. Click the "Join" button. On the next screen, enter the Passcode TS7E4i. Click Join. On the next screen, click Join again. If you would like to test this before the meeting, call Paul Beck at 703-209-2219 to do a test.

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**.