

Sept 2026 Message to Members

Chapter Members,

We're finally approaching the end of what has seemed to be an especially hot and dry summer. Those conditions make it especially hard to keep our gardens healthy. I'm hoping we'll see a cooler and wetter September.

With the exception of another workday (date to be determined) at the Klimavicz Legacy Garden at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, our next scheduled chapter event will be in October.



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

Cutting and Plant Exchange with Speaker Rick Edwards – 12 July

One more posting on our July meeting. **Rick Edwards** sent a letter to the chapter thanking us for inviting him to speak and for the kind way we welcomed him and his wife **Chris** while they were here. Special thanks go to the **Nanneys** for hosting them and to **Dave Nanney** for showing **Chris** the town (i.e., D.C.)

For those members who were unable to attend the meeting physically or via Zoom, a recording of the presentation is still available at [this link](#).

Meadowlark Botanical Garden Klimavicz Garden Workdays

The chapter developed and continues to maintain the Klimavicz Legacy Garden at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens in Vienna. Workdays are normally scheduled 10 days or less out, based on the projected weather conditions.

If you are interested in helping to maintain the garden, please contact **Carolyn Beck** at carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com or (703) 860-5676. She will contact you when the workdays are scheduled.



David Meadows and Hiep Pham clear beds for additional azalea plantings - photo Carolyn Beck

We hope to have several workdays this fall.

Azalea Society Convention 2028 April 21-23 2028

Azalea Society conventions are typically sponsored by individual chapters. The Society is approaching its 50th anniversary in December 2027. The society was formed in the Washington, DC area. The Northern Virginia chapter was one of

the original and oldest chapters in the Society, being formed in 1980. We will be sponsoring the convention in 2028.

We signed the contracts last month for the convention hotel, the Crowne Plaza in Herndon. It is the same hotel we used for the 2009 convention. It will be newly renovated when we hold the convention.

The convention will be held 21-23 April 2028. At this time our plan is (subject to sufficient interest) to offer an optional additional day of garden tours on 24 April.

More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Chapter meeting with Speaker and Plant Exchange – 18 October

Our next meeting will be held on 18 October at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church. **Kara McCall**, Executive Director of [Red Wiggler Care Farm](#) will share the farm's mission and work. She will cover therapeutic horticulture concepts and discuss the [Care Farming Network](#). We will also have our ever-popular plant exchange. We hope you're able to join us.

New Members

The chapter is pleased to welcome **Alex Yu**. **Alex** is from Fairfax and is currently a freshman studying plant science at Cornell University. He recently visited the **Becks** and took cuttings he plans to grow. Next spring, **Alex** wants to select some cultivars when they are in bloom, and then take cuttings during the summer.



Alex Yu with cuttings he selected, harvested, and processed at the Beck's - Photo Carolyn Beck

4" Pots Needed

Carolyn Beck is looking for 4" square pots and 15-cell trays to hold them, new or used. These are needed for the 2028 convention plant sale. If you have pots, contact **Carolyn** at carolyn.f.beck@gmail.com or (703) 860-5676.

2026 Calendar of Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Organization	Location
To be scheduled	Meadowlark Workday	NV-ASA	Meadowlark Botanical Gardens
October 18	Fall Meeting with speaker Kara McCall and plant exchange	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian
To be scheduled	Board Meeting	NV-ASA	To be determined

Date	Event	Organization	Location
6 December	Holiday Social	NV-ASA	Kirkwood Presbyterian

Other Activities/Notes –

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.