

Chapter News



Jake Summers and Pete Vines on a bench donated by the Northern Virginia Chapter in Pete's honor. Photo S. Bauer.

Northern Virginia Chapter

Rick Bauer, Corresponding Secretary

The chapter had a busy spring. On 27 March, we had a great presentation by Jake Summers, the project manager of the Holly Springs Legacy Garden at Jenkins Arboretum, Devon, PA. We had a large turnout for the presentation, both in person and via Zoom. The chapter has been working with Jenkins in the development of the garden for the last several years, providing plants and monetary support. A contingent of the chapter was also in attendance on 15 May for the formal dedication of the garden. We were pleased that the Holly Springs hybridizer, Pete Vines, was able travel from Amelia Island, FL, to join in the dedication. He was joined by some of his family members. In appreciation for his efforts in planning, designing, and coordinating the implementation of the

garden, chapter president Barb Kirkwood, presented Jake with a certificate of appreciation from the chapter and the chapter gave him a three-year membership in the society.

The chapter also donated additional Holly Springs Azaleas and pots for use by the garden (pots are currently in short supply in the industry). The chapter has also been working with Norfolk Botanical Garden over many years to increase their Glenn Dale collection. We delivered additional Glenn Dales to Norfolk on 17 May.

Spring is also the best time to sell azaleas while they are in bloom. The chapter held a number of



Northern Virginia Chapter member Lars Larson and Les Parks, Director of Horticulture at the Norfolk Botanical Garden with Glenn Dale Azaleas donated by the Chapter. Photo by R. Bauer.



Northern Virginia Chapter members Barb and John Kirkwood, Leslie and Dave Nanney, and Paul and Carolyn Beck delivered additional Holly Springs Azaleas and pots to the Jenkins Arboretum in Devon, PA. Photo R. Bauer.



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highly successful plant sales to the general public and also a separate one to the members of the Northern Virginia Bonsai Society Chapter for their use in creating bonsai.

Our next scheduled event is our cutting and plant exchange on 17 July. If you are in the area, you are more than welcome to join us.



Texas Chapter ***Sherrie Randall, Secretary***

The Texas Chapter held their annual plant sale at the Nacogdoches Farmer's Market Spring Fling event. We arrived with 114 plants, came home with 23. Another financial success as we'll again be able to fund two horticulture scholarships. All back issues of *The Azalean* taken were handed out along with the Azalea Society pamphlet in hopes of increasing membership. Sadly, that was only a minimum success as we had just one sign-up on site, but hopefully the enthusiasm of other shoppers may result in some mail-ins. Chapter members to thank for their support are David Creech, Don Parsons, Barbara Stump, and Donna Vander-molen.

The Texas Chapter began their spring outing at the IDEA garden in Tyler, Texas. It is maintained by the Smith County Master Gardeners within the Tyler Rose garden, Chapter members enjoyed the diverse, blooming, and labeled plantings. The rose gardens and Japanese maples were fully leafed out and stunning. Taking advantage of the ideal weather and beautiful setting, the Chapter held their spring meeting on picnic tables within the garden.

Following lunch at a local Mexican restaurant, members traveled to the Longview Arboretum and Garden Center. This garden has it all! Won-

derful hardscape, mass bed color plantings, container plantings, bridges, water features, Japanese maples, azaleas (of course), and some fun seating. This garden inspires visitors to a casual, pleasant walk...truly enjoyable, and highly recommended by all members.

The Texas Chapter of the Azalea Society of America awarded \$500 scholarships to Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA) horticulture majors Kaitlyn Skelton and Luke Keene. Profits from the Chapter's azalea plant sale held during the Spring Fling at the Nacogdoches Farmer's Market funded these scholarships. Presenting the certificates is Dr. David Creech, President of the Texas Chapter and Director of the SFA gardens.

All photos this page by Sherrie Randall. Shown at left is the IDEA garden in Tyler, TX. The two photos below are from the Texas Chapter's visit to the Longview Arboretum and Garden.





Society Officers for 2023-2025

For our next election, we will be electing society officers to serve during the term 2023-2025. The positions up for election are Society President and Vice President. Additionally, we will be electing three Directors to serve during the same period. Those interested in volunteering for one of these positions, or who would like more information, should contact the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Rick Bauer, at rickfbauer@gmail.com. Volunteers should submit a copy of their resume no later than 30 September. These will be published in the Winter issue of *The Azalean*.



Scholarship winners Kaitlyn Skelton (above) and Luke Keene (below) pictured with Dr. David Creech. Photos by Sherrie Randall.



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