

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER**Joe Klimavicz, *President*

The last meeting of the chapter was on September 20, 1998, at the home of Dave and Sharon Raden. The Radens graciously volunteered their home for this annual plant auction.

The plant auction was an opportunity for members and guests to acquire excellent plants at bargain bids, with the proceeds going to the Chapter treasury. There were abundant plants available that were grown by members of the Chapter, and contributed for the auction.

There were refreshments and door prizes as usual.

By now, most of you are aware that we moved the usual August plant auction to September. This move was based on several things, but I believe that if the move was made to avoid the heat alone, it was the right thing to do. The September meeting is also the meeting where we nominate new officers for the next two years. And even if a member does not want to serve in an official capacity, the bottom line is that if you want to help, we will find a way to use your talents.

**OCONEE CHAPTER**Ruth Bryan, *Secretary*

The Oconee Chapter met June 20 at the home of Joe and Donna Coleman for a swap and cutting party. A business meeting was called to order by Jim Thornton (in the absence of Mike McNeal, Chapter president). Jim told of future plans for the garden in Olde Towne Conyers that our chapter is sponsoring. He will ask for volunteers and plants as the project progresses. He also showed the ASA license tag that will sell for \$5.00.

The swapping of cuttings began from a table full of choice azaleas. The group dispersed into the beautiful and extensive Coleman garden for cuttings.

**BEN MORRISON CHAPTER**Joe Miller, *President*

The annual summer cutting picnic was held at Wake Robin, home of Nuran and Joe Miller. H. Gray Carter, Potomac Valley ARS Chapter member, presented plans for constructing a lighted, portable rooting bench. Members were impressed with Gray's design and construction upon inspecting an actual bench. Gray would be willing to share his design plans and may be contacted at (410) 822-4331.

The Chapter elected new officers for 1998-99:

President: Joe Miller	Vice President: Alan Jones
Secretary: Dale Flowers	Treasurer: Carol Flowers

The Chapter thanked Alan for his excellent leadership last year and for his willingness to continue in the role of Vice President.

The Chapter's fall meeting was held on October 18. The executive committee met to plan activities for the upcoming year. Bob Hobbs presented slides of the

ASA 1998 Convention Garden Tour. Thank you Bob for a colorful and informative talk!

Members have expressed concern for the need to attract new members. The Ben Morrison Chapter serves Southern Maryland, Anne Arundel County, and Prince Georges County. If any ASA Members have azalea friends in this part of Maryland please direct them to the Chapter.

**BROOKSIDE GARDENS CHAPTER**Dianne Gregg, *President*

A late report on our Azalea Show of last May. There were 160 entries, and many of them different varieties or cultivars than usually exhibited because of this year's early blooming season. Buck Clagett won the Best in Show for his own hybrid, a double white named Patrick William (for his grandson).

The Plant Auction at the National Arboretum on September 26 was a big success, thanks as usual to Bill Johnson and Auctioneer Bill Miller, and Dottie Murphree, cashier. A number of new people came in and were very competitive. A rare Russian species azalea which Barbara Bullock had grown from seed (we had seven plants) was the most sought after plant.

Debbie White has been chosen to be the Chapter Publicity Chairman and Margaret Vogel has agreed to be next year's Show Chairman. Bill Miller reports that 12 members have joined the ASA from his Web site.

The speaker for the October meeting was Charles Hanners who told about his experiences in hybridizing and running his nursery, Azalea Trace, in Southern Maryland.

At the December 7, meeting, Jean Cox was awarded the F. P. Lee Commendation of the chapter.