

Azalea

Journal of the Azalea Society of America



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Post Office Box 34536
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President's Letter

James O. Thornton
Conyers, GA

I am pleased to announce the news about Barbara Stump from the Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas as our new editor of **THE AZALEAN**. Barbara comes well qualified and as you read more about her in this issue, I'm sure you will agree we made the right choice and picked the winner. I ask each and every member to give her your support!

You saw the "Spread the Fever" ad and the car tag sale. Well we've decided to expand the program to include additional items, such as a ball cap, polo shirt and a light jacket, all with an embroidery design of our logo....the right quality and the right price! A great way to present our membership at the 1999 convention. A display will be available, but to make sure we can reach our minimum order we need to pre-order. So please see the description and ordering information and order today. Before I forget I'd like to thank the Oconee Chapter for their donation to pay for the one time cost of the embroidery design.

Please, if you haven't already, get your convention registration in the mail. I know it's going to be a great convention, and you don't want to miss it.

See you in Mobile!

P.S: HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR DUES RENEWAL?

Azalea Calendar	
1999	
March 6-7 March 13-14	River Oaks Garden Club 64th Annual Azalea Trail, 11:00AM to 6:00 PM, Houston, Texas. Tickets, required*.
March 31-April 2	Annual Convention and Annual Meeting at Mobile, Alabama

* River Oaks Garden Club
2503 Westheimer
Houston, Texas 77098-1321
Telephone 713-523-2483
Fax 713-523-4306

Website www.riveroaksgardenclub.org

On the Cover: *Encore 'Autumn Rouge'*
Artist: James Campbell

Azalea Society of America

The Azalea Society of America, organized December 9, 1977 and incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an educational and scientific non-profit association devoted to the culture, propagation and appreciation of azaleas Subgenera *Tsutsusi* and *Pentanthera* of the genus *Rhododendron* in the Heath family (*Ericaceae*).

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THE AZALEAN
*Journal of the Azalea Society
of America, Inc.*

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INTRODUCING THE NEW EDITOR

Barbara Stump from Texas is new editor for **THE AZALEAN**.

*M*s. Stump is a graduate student in horticulture at Stephen F. Austin State University in the east Texas town of Nacogdoches, Texas. Midway through her master's degree, she is currently a graduate research assistant working with SFA Mast Arboretum Director Dr. David L. Creech. Her thesis project is site planning, design, and construction of the newest addition to the arboretum, the eight-acre SFA Azalea Garden.

Of her selection as Editor of **THE AZALEAN** Barbara says, "This is a wonderful opportunity for me. It combines all my main passions in one job: plants,



*New editor for THE AZALEAN Barbara Stump
Photograph by Hardy Meredith, SFA Public Affairs*

people, writing and, publication. I'll do my best to continue the great work Dr. Hobbs has done to date and make **THE AZALEAN** a key reference for azalea lovers everywhere."

Her horticulture experience includes six years of volunteering and two years of board membership with the support group associated with north Houston's Mercer Arboretum and Botanic Gardens. Previous undergraduate work in botany and floriculture at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, and at Temple University's Ambler campus in Pennsylvania laid the groundwork for her life-long horticulture interest. While at Mercer she wrote some newsletter articles and co-chaired the annuals and perennials grower's section for the huge annual fund-raising sale, March Mart.

Barbara learned the editorial trade in 11 years of working in Corvallis, Oregon, with a national civil engineering firm. This beautiful Northwest city also introduced her to the glories of rhododendrons and azaleas. Central to her future passion for azaleas was the outstanding deciduous azalea border planted in the central quadrangle of Oregon State University, where she also graduated with an interdisciplinary master's degree in the fields of English, Speech Communications, and Psychology.

She has also been an English teacher in secondary school, managed a fee-based information service within Rice University's Fondren Library, and worked for the Institute for Scientific Information in Philadelphia, marketing library reference tools. Her hobbies include restoring a 1890 Greek Revival style house in Nacogdoches and collecting salvias and antique roses.

Barbara will assist Dr. Hobbs with the December and March issues, taking over full publication duties for the June 1999 issue. □

1999 CONVENTION AND ANNUAL MEETING

Maarten van der Giessen

Semmes, Alabama

Sponsored by the Louisiana Chapter

*I*t's time to return to the Azalea City! The 1999 Azalea Society of America's Annual Meeting and Convention will be held March 31 to April 2 at the historic Radisson Admiral Semmes in beautiful Mobile, Alabama. Those of you who remember the 1985 Convention know that this is a "good-doer" of a site. The Admiral Semmes, built in 1940 and renovated in 1985, is Mobile's oldest and most elegant hotel. It is conveniently located at 251 Government Street in the heart of old Mobile, just a couple of blocks from both the Dauphin Street entertainment district and the site of the original 1700's city of Mobile at Fort Condo. Limo service from the airport for three or more passengers is available for around \$6.00. Plan to reserve some time just to explore this grand old southern city. Information concerning religious services during the week for all denominations and faiths will be available at the registration desk.

Convention Overview

Mobile, Alabama is home to some of the largest and most innovative commercial azalea nurseries in the United States as well as some of the oldest and loveliest Southern Indica gardens in the world. Add in our Louisiana and Alabama hybridizers for spice, and you'll find the Azalea City an azalea gourmet's feast.

Wednesday night's featured speaker is Tom Dodd III of Dodd and Dodd Nursery. Tommy will introduce us to the fruit of his work of the past 20 years: the "Confederate Series." On Thursday evening, two of the most influential breeders in the South, Dr. Gene Aromi and Dr. John Thornton, will share their wealth of experience in hybridizing deciduous azaleas and heat tolerant rhododendrons. Our Friday night banquet will feature Jim Berry of Flowerwood Nursery. Mr. Berry is the International President of the International Plant Propagator's Society, a past president of the Alabama and South Alabama Nurserymen's Association. Mr. Berry will bring us up to date on the progress Flowerwood has made getting "new" azaleas into the retail trade through his division of Flowerwood, Plant Development Systems, Inc. (PDSI).

Wednesday Events

The convention officially opens at 3:30 Wednesday at the Admiral Semmes. The registration table will be located in the meeting room. The social hour and ASA plant sale will follow with doors opening precisely at 5:00. The unique and rare are always the first to go, so plan on being the first in line. Mr. Buddy Lee will greet our conventioners at 7:30, and the show is on!

Thursday Events

We'll board the buses at 8:30AM, bound for the gardens of Tom and Becky Root. This garden, formerly known as Clarke Gardens, was a prominent tour destination in the 1960's, featuring hundreds of azaleas and camellias set amidst

meandering woods and a mirror lake. With Mr. Clarke's passing in the early 1970's the garden was closed, never to reopen. The Roots purchased the gardens from the estate, and have helped the gardens recover from the devastation of hurricane Frederick in 1979, and hurricane Georges this past summer.

Bellingrath Gardens is our next stop. Bellingrath Gardens is one of the most well known azalea and camellia gardens in the deep south. This estate garden was built by Walter and Bessie Bellingrath and opened to the public in 1932. The gardens today occupy 65 of the more than 900-acre estate. Although known for its 200,000 azaleas on display in the spring, Bellingrath Gardens is a year round floral delight. The rose garden is breathtaking when its 2,000 roses are in bloom, and thousands of annuals are always in bloom to accentuate the natural beauty of the estate. The Bellingrath Home is a showcase of the many antiques and rare porcelain that Mrs. Bellingrath collected; also a large display of Boehm porcelain is on permanent display at the gardens.

From Bellingrath we venture across the Eastern Shore at Mobile Bay to Flowerwood Nursery's newest operation, PDSI. PDSI is the research and development center of Flowerwood Nursery, one of the ten largest nurseries in the United States. PDSI is responsible for patenting and promoting new plants, such as the "Red Hollies," the 'Flower Carpet' rose and the popular "Encore" azaleas. Here we will peer into Mr. Berry's crystal ball and see Flowerwood's vision of the future.

Our last stop Thursday is the garden of Mr. Bobby Green. Mr. Green is well known in horticultural circles for his camellia work with George Wright at Wintergardens Nursery. Bobby and George have traveled throughout the South collecting rare and exceptionally fine

old camellias to give them a second chance in the trade. His garden features these and several species azaleas from the 1940's.

Friday's Events

The buses roll at 8:30AM for the nerve center of the azaleas industry: Semmes, Alabama. With more than 200 registered nurseries in the Semmes area, it is the greatest wholesale azalea producer in the country.

We'll first stop at Dodd and Dodd Nursery. Tommy and Thayer Dodd produce a wide assortment of plants native to the Southeast. Of course, conspicuous in their inventory are the native azaleas particularly the "Confederate Series."

From the woodland azaleas we move on to the living room azaleas. The Blackwells have been a prominent nursery family in Semmes since the 1930's. Today they are the largest florist azalea operation in the deep south, shipping florist-quality azaleas as far as New York. The florist azalea is among the most beautiful and the most difficult plant in the nursery business to produce. The Blackwells make it look easy.

Ever tried to root an azalea? Our next stop rooted a million last year. Van der Giessen Nursery is a whole-

sale propagator of azaleas and woody ornamentals. We will visit their seven-acre greenhouse location for a "how to" demonstration, then a look at their azalea cultivar evaluation program and their display beds.

Magnolia Nursery holds perhaps the finest collection of native azaleas and ornamentals in Alabama. Bamboo, magnolia, trillium, you name it. The nursery is surrounded by and supported by the life-long collection of Dr. John Allen Smith. From azalea to zephyranthes there's always something in the garden to excite and amaze the most discriminating plant enthusiast. Dr. Smith will also show us his extensive collection of Aromi deciduous azaleas.

Finally we'll take a walk through Mobile Botanical Gardens. The gardens have gone through several metamorphoses in the past few years. New plants and new attitudes



Dodd hybrid Confederate Series 'Robert E. Lee'



Magnolia Gardens



'Centerpiece'—Aromi hybrid



Dodd hybrid Confederate Series 'Jeb Stuart'

are making this a garden worth exploring. This is the deep south, so take your time.

Saturday Events

The Board of Directors will meet from 9:00 to 11:00. The plant sale will

also be open from 9:00 to 10:00 for a final chance at those things you can't bring yourself to go home without. There's always room in the garden for one more!

We hope you'll have the opportunity to stay and visit Saturday with our Alabama and Louisiana friends, or just to wiggle your toes in the Gulf of Mexico. Information on "things to see, things to do" will be available at the registration desk. Come on down!



'Shipley'—Aromi Hybrid



'Red Ribbons'—Aromi Hybrid

Maarten van der Giessen attended Memphis State University from 1976-78, and majored in Chemistry at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, AL from 1979-1984. He worked for Cottage Hill Nursery; Container division in Mobile, AL as Propagation, Production, and finally Assistant Manager from 1985 to 1990. In 1990 he left Cottage Hill to start van der Giessen Nursery, Inc. in Semmes, AL with his father, Peter, where he is currently Vice-President and manager.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

For President: William F. Bode, Covington, Louisiana. Bill retired as a hospital division manager for a pharmaceutical company. He is a past president of the Baton Rouge Men's Garden Club and a past president of the Louisiana Chapter of the Azalea Society of America. He has been interested in azaleas for 30 years.

For Vice President: Joseph E. Schild, Jr, Hixon, Tennessee. Joe Schild has owned and operated Schild Azalea Gardens and Nursery, a niche nursery specializing in natives, for over ten years. He is an avid hybridizer of deciduous azaleas and has a small number of the shrubs to be registered and trademarked as Schild Hybrids®. For over 30 years, Joe's love of our eastern species has drawn him into the wild in search of the best of the best to propagate. He says he finds no greater joy than when leading a group into the woodlands and mountains to introduce them to the wonders of our native species. Many of his accounts have been published in the *Journal-American Rhododendron Society*, **THE AZALEAN** and the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the ARS Newsletter. Joe currently is the Landscape Manager for Reflection Riding Arboretum and Botanical Garden in Chattanooga, Tennessee, as well as current Vice President and Program Chairman of the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the ARS, a member of the Oconee Chapter of the ASA and a member of the Tennessee Nurseryman's Association. He presents a number of programs with other chapters, garden clubs, civic clubs, and nursery trade groups each year and is listed with the ARS Speaker's Bureau.

For Director: Donald W. Hyatt, McLean, Virginia. Don has a Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry with a double major in Horticulture and a Masters degree in Computer Science. He has taught mathematics or computer science in the Fairfax County, Virginia, public schools for 28 years. Don has been

president of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Azalea Society of America, and served on the Board of Governors in the Society's formative years. He has been hybridizing azaleas and rhododendron for over 30 years.

For Director: Col. Murray Sheffield USAF (Ret.), Wetumpka, Alabama., Murray made a career in the Air Force and served from 1941 until 1945 and 1948 until 1971. He has been gardening with azaleas for many years. He and his wife Inez have a four-acre garden with 4,000 azaleas in the ground (250 varieties). He has had good success working with thousands of cuttings, liners, and mature plants, both purchased and started from scratch.

For Director: Gen. Bryghte D. Godbold USMC (Ret.) Dallas Texas. Bryghte holds a Ph.D. degree from NYU. He is currently director of the Azalea Society of America and is Director Emeritus of the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Gardens and the U.S. National Arboretum. He was Director of "Goals for Dallas" in 1963, a blueprint for development which led growth strategies for the city of Dallas into the 1990's.

Dealing with Botanical Names

Donald H. Voss

Vienna, Virginia

Pronunciation

In general, the pronunciation of Latin botanical names requires little extra effort. They look strange, and many are strange—being botanical Latin, an amalgam of Latin words and latinized forms of words from other languages (especially Greek) and proper names. The trick is to scan the word, divide it into syllables, and then pronounce each syllable distinctly and confidently! Whether your pronunciation is right or wrong may depend on the background and preferences of your listener. But whether or not your vowel values and stresses are those of the listener, in almost all cases you will be understood.

Two widely available guides to pronunciation are the "Pronunciations" column in *The American Gardener* (American Horticultural Society), and the *New Pronouncing Dictionary of Plant Names* (American Nurseryman Publishing Company). Coombes' *Dictionary of Plant Names* provides British preferences in the matter. For a thorough treatment of botanical Latin, readers can do no better than to consult Stearn's *Botanical Latin* (1992a).

As you become acquainted with the Latin plant names and learn their origins, many of the pronunciation problems will resolve themselves. For example, consider the following epithets in adjectival form that identify the geographical origin of certain plants. Note especially the endings; remember that an epithet in adjectival form must agree in gender with the genus name.

Gender			
masculine	<i>californicus</i>	<i>americanus</i>	<i>canadensis</i>
feminine	-----a	-----a	-----is
neuter	-----um	-----um	-----e

Once these endings are familiar, the pronunciation of many unfamiliar, but structurally similar, names becomes easier; e.g., *lusitanicus* (pertaining to Portugal), *neapolitanus* (pertaining to Naples), and *parisiensis* (pertaining to Paris).

The pronunciation of the suffix *-ense* or the epithet *molle* (neuter in gender) sometimes raises the question of whether the final "e" should be silent or sounded. Because it is an essential element that here specifies neuter gender, it should be voiced. (The masculine and feminine forms are respectively *-ensis* and *mollis*.)

Another situation is often accorded different treatment by different botanists; namely, pronunciation of the suffix *-oides* connoting similarity. Coombes treats this "oi" as a diphthong (pronounced as in "adenoid"). Stearn (1992a) points out that, based on the Greek derivation of this suffix, the "oi" should be pronounced as two elements. The "o" becomes part of the stem of the word to which it is attached and the "ides" contributes the meaning of resemblance. For example, *hippophaeoides* would be "hi-po-fa-ee-OI-deez" according to Coombes and "hi-po-fa-ee-o-I-deez" according to Stearn. (Coombes uses underscored characters for stressed syllables; in this note, these have been changed to capital letters.)

Because some readers of this journal find the pronunciation of botanical names confusing or even forbidding, the Society's "answer-man-in-chief" recently suggested the desirability of listing in **THE AZALEAN** the correct pronunciations of Latin specific epithets for azaleas. The author of this note replied that the task would be difficult because of variations in practice, some of which reflect national usages. The present note is intended to provide background information on several of the problems encountered when one attempts to specify pronunciation of botanical names. The author is not a linguist, and the discussion only samples the issues involved. We may be thankful that the ambiguities affecting pronunciation are not often encountered in the spelling of botanical names.

Through the generous cooperation of The American Horticultural Society, we are able to present a number of suggested pronunciations from the "Pronunciations" column in *The American Gardener*.

More generally, Stearn points out that in Latin every vowel is pronounced, and he gives as an example *Cotoneaster*, which is shown in Coombes' notation as "ko-ton-ee-A-ster." (For an exception, see below for discussion of diphthongs.)

There is a tendency for Europeans to use short, or soft, vowels, while in the United States there is more use of long, or hard, vowels. A simple example is *nana*, meaning dwarf and sometimes found as an intraspecific epithet. While Coombes calls for "NAH-na," many if not most in this country use "NA-na." Stearn (1992) tells us that even professional botanists do not conform to a uniform practice:

How they [botanical names of plants] are pronounced matters little provided they sound pleasant and are understood by all concerned. This is most likely to be attained by pronouncing them in accordance with the rules of classical Latin pronunciation. There are, however, several systems, since people tend to pronounce Latin words by analogy with words of their own language. . .

In English-speaking countries there exist two main systems, the traditional English pronunciation generally used by gardeners and botanists and the 'reformed' or 'restored' academic pronunciation adopted by classical scholars... This academic pronunciation comes closer to the usual Latin pronunciation of Continental people than does the conventional English pronunciation.

Stearn provides a table comparing the reformed academic and traditional English pronunciations of various letters and diphthongs. Perfectionists should consult this table. Diphthongs such as "ae" and "oe" used to be printed as ligatures (with the two letters run together into a single character—for example, look at the title page in the *Encyclopedia Britannica*). According to Stearn, diphthongs are to be treated as long vowels. For example, in reformed academic, the sound of "ae" is given as *ai* in *aisle*, of "oe" as *oi* in *toil*; in traditional English, "ae" as *ea* in *meat*, "oe" as *ee* in *bee*. Current practice often drops the first letter of the diphthong; resulting, for example, in "encyclopedia."

The letter "c" causes trouble. Stearn states that in the reformed academic version it is always pronounced as in "cat"; in the traditional English version, it varies according to the following vowel—thus "before a, o, u as in cat; before e, i, y as in centre." The latter practice is followed in the *New*

Pronouncing Dictionary of Plant Names and is recommended by the author. Coombes adopts the reformed academic path, pronouncing with a "k" sound whatever vowel follows the "c"—a practice far less euphonious if marginally easier to remember.

Remember: scan the word, divide it into syllables, then pronounce each syllable distinctly and confidently! Practice pronouncing unfamiliar ones and they will soon become familiar.

Transliteration

Variant spelling of plant names may be encountered, especially in the latinization of personal or geographical names. The transliteration of words from one language to another is subject to various approaches. One issue is the use of diacritical marks. In German to English translation, for example, one is confronted by umlauts on certain vowels in the German text. If these are not available in a particular font or software package being used, does one add an "e" following the vowel to indicate that it is umlauted, or simply forget about the umlaut? Similarly, the dropping of accents from French text may seem an expedient solution, but it will arouse violent reactions from Francophones. Indeed, in both of these examples, the omission of diacritics leads to mispronunciation unless the reader is familiar with the original language. The most complex problems arise when attempting to render in roman characters names that are represented by ideographs in a language such as Chinese or Japanese.

Transliteration of Russian (or other Slavic) names from Cyrillic to the roman alphabet varies from country to country and sometimes within a country! Brummitt and Powell (1992) refer to "an example of one Russian author whose name was transliterated in four different ways in four different journals in the same year." Brummitt and Powell have tried in their work to use the transliteration preferred by the individual whose name is transliterated.

Although the spelling of a botanical name in Latin form is almost always fixed permanently once it is validly published, the orthography of the author's name may change. One reason for such a change is to guide readers toward correct pronunciation.

An example of the difficulty encountered in rendering a personal name is met with in the roman version of the name of an eminent Russian botanist of German extraction who traveled in Japan in the early 1860s and published names of several new *Rhododendron* species in 1870. Stearn (1992b) presents the name in traditional West European transliteration and then explicitly gives the pronunciation—which differs from the usual English pronunciation of some of the letters: "Maximowicz... pronounced 'Maksimovich'". The "w" in German leads to a "v" sound in English. The Edinburgh botanists who recently revised nomenclature in *Rhododendron* have changed their practice and are spelling the name "Maximovicz." Transliteration using U.S. standards renders the name "Maximovich," leading the English-speaker to the "v" sound as well as to the "ch" sound as in "lunch"—the correct pronunciation of the Cyrillic characters. (I have never been able to wrap my tongue around "cz.")

Another example shows how a Latin-form botanical name can lead to mispronunciation because of the transliteration system adopted: *R. sichotense* Pojarkova. The specific epithet is derived from the name of mountains in Russia's Far East, the Sikhote-Alin' range. The U.S. Library of Congress—American Library Association (LC-ALA) table and the U.S. Board of Geographic Names (BGN) table both lead to "sikhotense" instead of the "sichotense" adopted by European botanists. The "ch" may lead the English-language reader to an incorrect sound like that in "chocolate" while the sound of the Russian character in the name is better represented by "kh"—as in the initial Cyrillic letter of "Khrushchev." The author of the spe-

cies would also be rendered differently following U.S. practice: Poyarkova (BGN) or Poiarkova (LC-ALA). To many U.S. readers, "ja" here leads to "JA" as in "jar"; but to Europeans, it leads to the more appropriate "YA" as in "yard."

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Donald H. Voss is an economist by training, and an active gardener with a scholarly interest in azaleas and rhododendrons. He is an expert on the azaleas of Robert Gartrell (Robin Hill hybrids), and is a former chairman of the Society's Board of Directors and former keeper of the Society's database. Don currently volunteers at the herbarium of the U.S. National Arboretum. □

The author expresses appreciation to Mr. David J. Ellis, Assistant Editor, *The American Gardener*, for assistance with the phonetic renderings.

Pronunciation of Selected *Azalea* Epithets

<u>Taxon</u>	<u><i>The American Gardener</i></u>
<i>Rhododendron</i>	ro-doh-DEN-dron
Subg. <i>Pentanthera</i> [Deciduous azaleas]	pen-TAN-theh-ruh
<i>alabamense</i> From Alabama	ah-luh-ba-MEN-see
<i>arborescens</i> Woody, sometimes tree-like	ar-bo-RES-enz
<i>atlanticum</i> From the Atlantic Coast of N. Amer. (also used in other genera for plants from the Atlas Mts. of N. Afr.)	at-LAN-tih-kum
<i>austrinum</i> Southern	aw-STRY-num
<i>calendulaceum</i> Similar in color to <i>Calendula</i>	kuh-len-dew-LAY-see-um
<i>canadense</i> Canadian or, in older works, from NE North America	kan-a-DEN-see
<i>canescens</i> With grayish-white hairs	kuh-NES-enz
<i>cumberlandense</i> From the Cumberland Mountains and Plateau	kum-bur-lan-DEN-see
<i>flammeum</i> Flame-colored	FLAM-ee-um
<i>japonicum</i> Japanese	ja-PON-i-kum
<i>luteum</i> Yellow (flowers)	LOO-tee-um
<i>molle</i> With soft hairs	MOL-lee
<i>occidentale</i> Western	ahk-sih-den-TAL-ee
<i>periclymenoides</i> Similar to honeysuckle	pair-ih-kly-meh-NOY-deez
<i>prinophyllum</i> With leaves bearing a resemblance to those of <i>Prinos</i> , a Linnaean genus that included the plants now known as <i>Ilex glabra</i> and <i>Ilex verticillata</i>	prin-o-FIL-um
<i>prunifolium</i> With plum-like leaves	prew-nih-FO-lee-um
<i>schlippenbachii</i> After Schlippenbach, Russian naval officer and traveler (mid 19 th Cent.)	shlip-en-BACH-ee-eye

PRIZE FOR BEST ARTICLE IN THE AZALEAN—1998

In 1989, the Board of Governors authorized the editor of **THE AZALEAN** to establish an annual prize for the best article to appear in **THE AZALEAN**. The concept was to acquire through donations, a fund which when invested would provide an annual prize for the best article published in **THE AZALEAN**. Funds were donated by the following chapters to establish the "CHAPTERS' PRIZE":

**Tri-State
Richmond Virginia
Ben Morrison,
Northern Virginia
and Brookside Gardens**

As stated in the September 1990 issue, the best article each year will be selected by a poll of the membership. The prize will be announced and awarded at the Annual Meeting of the Society.

A ballot for the prize for 1998 is on the wrapper of this issue. PLEASE VOTE.

Back Issues of THE AZALEAN

Details of how to obtain complete sets of back issues of **THE AZALEAN** at bargain prices are still being worked out. This will be an opportunity for members, new and old to obtain their own copies of the journal of the Society back to its beginning in 1979. These issues are a great source of information for growers, landscapers, and nurserymen to say nothing about their importance to those of us who love azaleas.

<i>vaseyi</i> After Vasey, U.S. botanist (mid- to late 19 th Cent.)	VAY'-see-eye
<i>viscosum</i> Sticky	viss-KO-sum
Subg. <i>Tsutsusi</i> [Evergreen azaleas]	tsu-TSU-see
' <i>Amoenum</i> ' Pleasant, delightful	a-MEE-num
<i>dilatatum</i> Expanded	dil-a-TAY-tum
<i>eriocarpum</i> Wooly fruited	eh-ree-o-KAR-pum
<i>indicum</i> From India (or the Far East)	IN-dih-kum
<i>kaempferi</i> After Engelbert Kaempfer, German physician in Japan with Dutch East India Company; described many Japanese plants (ca. 1700)	KEMP-fer-eye
<i>kiusianum</i> From Kyushu, Japan	kee-oo-see-AY-num
<i>macrosepalum</i> With long sepals	mak-ro-SEE-pah-lum
<i>mucronatum</i> With hard point at leaf apex	mew-kro-NAY-tum
<i>nakaharae</i> After Nakahara, Japanese collector of Taiwanese plants (ca. 1900)	na-kah-HAR-ee
<i>oldhamii</i> After Oldham, Kew gardener and plant collector in Orient (mid 19 th Cent.)	old-HAM-ee-eye
<i>poukhanense</i> Of Poukhan-san, Korea	poo-kah-NEN-see
<i>scabrum</i> Rough	SKAY-brum
<i>serpyllifolium</i> With thyme-like leaves	ser-pil-li-FO-lee-um
<i>simsii</i> After Sims, editor of Curtis's Botanical Magazine (early 1800s)	SIMS-ee-eye
<i>tashiroi</i> After Tashiro, Japanese botanist (late 19 th Cent.)	tah-SHEE-ro-eye
<i>weyrichii</i> After Weyrich, Russian naval surgeon who botanized in Japan and E. Asia (mid 19 th Cent.)	way-RIKH-ee-eye
<i>yedoense</i> From Tokyo (Edo), Japan	yeh-doh-EN-see

WHAT, ACTUALLY, ARE GUMPO AND SATSUKI AZALEAS?

Polly Hill

Hockessin, Delaware

Hepburn's *Japanese-English and English-Japanese Abridged Dictionary*, Third Ed. Tokyo, 1907:

Satsuki, n. The Fifth Month

Satsuki, n. Red Azalea, blooming in the 5th Month (o.c.)

Gumpo, n. A swarm of bees.

A few more facts are needed to interpret these basics. In the current Japanese calendar Satsuki refers to the month of June (o.c. means "old calendar"). In today's horticulture Satsuki and Gumpo are used indiscriminately in describing certain azaleas. [In Western horticulture, 'Gumpo' and the various color-patterns variants associated with it are generally considered to be a subset of the Satsuki hybrid azaleas, ed.]

Both words, Satsuki and Gumpo, refer specifically to Japanese azaleas, most probably hybrids, that are evergreen, low growing, late blooming. The importance of the color red appears to have receded. Bear in mind that one should not include, for instance, early blooming hybrids, deciduous azaleas or tall plants. As for the bees, need I explain their habits to gardeners?

Now in the American market there are two azaleas called 'Gumpo White' and 'Gumpo Pink'. This has caused some confusion since they are definitely not red. I have heard that there is a lack of red Gumpo in our market. Fortunately, this is not the case.

I have named and registered five red Satsukis or Gumpo: 'Joseph Hill', 'Jeff Hill', 'Alexander', 'Red Fountain', and 'Wintergreen'. These five were raised by me from seed sent to me by Dr. Tsuneshige Rokujo of Tokyo, a connoisseur and breeder of *Rhododendron*. He shared these seeds with me in 1961 and 1963. To produce the seed Dr. Rokujo made the crosses *R. nakaharae* x 'Kin-no-sai', 'Maruba-osakazuki' x unknown male, *nakaharae* x 'W. Leith', and 'W. Leith' x *nakaharae*.

Although the species *R. nakaharae* is endemic to Taiwan, remember that Japan did own Taiwan at one time. The species *nakaharae* is evergreen, low-growing, and late blooming with red flowers. Dr. Rokujo had *R. nakaharae* blooming in his garden. He named the selection he made 'Mariko' for his daughter. There are also many Chinese species and hybrids at home in Japanese gardens that are now considered to be Satsukis. 'W. Leith' is a red English rhododendron once in Hillier's catalogue that Dr. Rokujo greatly admired.

In 1957 Dr. Rokujo sent me five small bare-rooted cuttings from azaleas growing in a friend's very fine Gumpo garden. He referred to them as "new dwarf gumpo seedlings." Their colors were white, multi-red-white, and one double pink. Some of these selections had large flowers 4 - 4-1/2-inches across. They are barely hardy in Zone 6, with the exception of 'Yuka', which seems more hardy and more compact than the others. I grew them to maturity and eventually gave them names of Japanese friends since the plants had Japanese roots. Their names are 'Midori', 'Matsuyo', 'Yaye', 'Yuka' and 'Eiko San' (a synonym of

'Balsaminiflorum'), a very handsome double pink.

To my eye, the finest red azalea I have introduced is *R. nakaharae* 'Mount Seven Star'. In 1969 I received wild seed collected by a friend from a mountain in Taiwan called "Mount Seven Star". It was grown to maturity in my garden now called the "Polly Hill Arboretum," formerly Barnard's Inn Farm. In 1975 Jeanne Holgate helped me to name the color accurately. A renowned English flower painter, she dipped her wet brush into her paint box and soon found the exact match she was looking for. "Pure cadmium red," she said. I purloined the swatch she had made and glued it to the file card on 'Mount Seven Star'.

Back again to a dictionary, *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* unabridged, 1961: Cadmium red, n. (1): a pigment consisting of a mixture of cadmium sulfide, cadmium selenide, and often barium sulfate and varying in hue from light red to maroon. (2): FRENCH VERMILION [French vermilion is a vivid reddish orange, similar to cherry red and tomato red, according to the National Bureau of Standards Dictionary of Color Names, ed.]

That's all I can do with words, accurately. I only wish I had the lovely flowers of 'Mount Seven Star' in front of me, right now, to show you how fine an American Satsuki, or Gumpo, can be. □

Polly (Mrs. Julian) Hill is well known among azalea lovers for her introduction of the North Tisbury Hybrids and her selections of native azaleas.



'Alexander', 'Matsuyo', and 'Yuka' (l-r)

RHODODENDRONS OF NORTH CHICKAMAUGA CREEK GORGE

J. E. Schild

Hixson, Tennessee

My first encounter with the cold, clear waters of the North Chickamauga Creek was by chance on a hot July day in my youth. As young lads in summer camp, we boys found a deep blue-hole, a rope tied to a tree limb, clothing piled on the boulders, and the icy cold water to skinny-dip. In my memory, I recall clearly the chilly first plunge and my lungs gasping for air. From somewhere deep within the millions of gray-matter cells of my brain, the faintest fragrance of the Sweet Azalea continues to bring those memories flooding back to me.

Of course, at the time I had no knowledge of native azaleas nor did I care, but for the past 30 years those jewels of nature have been a passion of mine. Each spring, my eyes glaze over and there is a strong urgency to jump into my truck and strike out for a wild azalea chase. Fortunately, the creek gorge is only ten minutes from my home. Also my hiking buddy, Burton Johnston, is an azalea nut like me, and all it takes is a telephone call to have us meeting for a hike.

North Chickamauga Creek Gorge is one of the most beautiful scenic places in the country with its steep sides, cold rushing waters, high rocky bluffs, and abundant native plants. At around 1900 feet, the top of the mountain looms over the valley. The headwaters of the creek are in Sequatchie County and in the span of 12 miles it drops 1250 feet, then meanders another 25 miles to the Tennessee River just below Chickamauga Dam.

All along the creek grow large colonies of *Kalmia latifolia*, *R. periclymenoides*, *R. canescens*, *R. arborescens*, *R. viscosum*, *R. maximum*, *R. catawbiense* f. *insularis*, and interspecifics. In small colonies we have found *Stewartia ovata* and var. *grandiflora*, a truly lucky find. A clone of the Swamp Azalea found a number of years ago in the gorge is now planted in my garden. It is covered with spicy scented white flowers during blooming that almost hide the bluish-green leaves.

Many such plants have been propagated from both cuttings and seed through the years of exploring the gorge. Some of the best Sweet Azaleas I have ever seen lurk along the forest edge and the creek banks. The strong pink flowers and spicy scent on some shrubs give hint of a friendly relationship with the Swamp Azalea. A number of shrubs have pink margins or strong pink stripes along the lobe mid-veins.

To get into the gorge a few years ago, one had to climb down several hundred feet from the road, then hike the short trail. Now there is a nice entrance provided by the Bowaters Company as a nature pocket with parking and even picnic tables. The trail system was expanded and marked on the north side of the creek, but the south side with a ford across that stream must be negotiated to reach the vast number of plants of interest.

For most of the early to mid spring, the creek water rolls and rumbles through the gorge with too much turbulence and white water to



R. arborescens with pink margins



R. maximum



R. catawbiense f. *insularis*



Typical Sweet Azalea (*R. arborescens*)



N. Chickamauga Creek Gorge

attempt a crossing, but come late June and early July those same waters have slowed to shallow pools and occasional riffles and foaming shoots between the huge boulders. It is at this time when one may cross over without getting the feet wet and journey up the gorge on the southern trail or venture up the creek bed boulder hopping.

Venturing into Chicamauga Creek Gorge is like a journey back in time. The steep sides of the gorge block out all signs of civilization except for the occasional over-flying aircraft. Huge Hemlock, massive Oaks, three species of our native Magnolia, and countless other species of trees and shrubs occupy this pocket of wilderness.

But, it's the rhododendron and azaleas of the gorge we go for, and they abound. Dense thickets of *R. maximum* line the creek banks with mountain laurel and *R. arborescens* competing for space and sunlight. There are several large shrubs of the Great Rhododendron that have bright yellow blotches and not a sign of green. Just above the ford on the south side I found several colonies of our lowland, heat-tolerant Catawba Rhododendron in full bloom on May 17, 1997. On the north side, the same grows along an upslope and the shrubs are so tall they arch over the trail in tunnel fashion.

The heady fragrance of *R. arborescens* pulls one to explore the creek edge, for there these shrubs abound in such numbers as to make it nearly impossible to fully examine each. Most have the usual flowers: white with typical red filaments and style. Other native shrubs grow beside them such as Virginia Willow, Buttonbush, Smooth Alders, and many more. At the ford, there is a colony of shrubs with delightful pinkish flowers and a spicy scent. Even though the limbs are smooth like Sweet Azalea, that color and scent must have *R. viscosum* in the genes.

Tucked below huge, house size boulders, one finds *R. arborescens* growing to 12 feet in height with dark, glossy green foliage so large it reminds one of large leaf-rhododendron. At the shrub's feet, Royal, Cinnamon, and Lady Fern grow and thrive. Further away from the stream, wildflowers are thick and beautiful as understory plants.

About three miles up the gorge from the ford, Burton and I found a good stand of *Stewartia ovata* about six years ago. In 1997, we again searched out these plants and were rewarded with something totally unexpected. As we moved slowly through the understory, our feet walked on a carpet of Partridge Berry so large as to make it unreal. I slowly moved to a slight rise where I thought the *Stewartias* were located when a sight caught my eyes. A 12-foot tree lay on its side and there were huge flowers on it.

From my hollering, Burton came on the run, perhaps thinking I had stumbled upon a copperhead snake, which does also occupy the gorge in large numbers. My trembling hand pointed to the large, white flowers on the tree. At first I thought this find might be *S. malacodendron*, but was later pleased to find out it was *S. ovata* var. *grandiflora*, a much nicer specimen with almost five-inch blooms, purple filaments, and yellow anthers. Each of the petal lobes had the texture of heavy fine crepe with the crinkling effect. Cuttings were taken and we flagged the area to return in 1998 for more examination.

With cuttings tucked in our day packs, we moved to the creek edge and looked about. The wide pool of water before us was like green glass. A short distance above, the water foamed and roared from a side channel, a sound and sight so pleasing we sat down on the huge, exposed roots of an ancient Sycamore to relax and just listen while eating a sandwich. This same pool several years ago was a great source of relief as I soaked my aching feet in the icy water after exploring a side branch all the way to the bluff line.

Our eyes caught glimpses of dashing Goggle Eye Bass and Rainbow Trout darting from below large rocks to capture a meal. This is as much a part of azalea chasing as finding the superb shrubs. Just becoming a part of the natural setting without leaving footprints is key to a relaxing and eventful day in early summer. Too often, we azalea chasers (caught up in what I call June Madness), do damage to the wild places we explore. This is unfortunate, because a shrub dug from the wild will never be seen again

in all of its natural glory by others desiring that special experience of discovery. Propagation from seed or cuttings will take a little longer, but will leave that special shrub for future generations.

Further up the gorge a transition happens. Near the bluffs grow our *R. cumberlandense* in soft pastel shades as understory shrubs, while in sun the colors are rich and vibrant shades of orange and red. There are not many of the Cumberland Azalea in this area, but those located many years ago are very nice.

The intense heat and humidity soon causes us to turn around and head back down the gorge. At 1:00 PM, not even the slight breeze coming from the creek can cool us, but the heady fragrance of the azaleas does make the hike out tolerable. As we pass the old gorge entry, Burton and I are thankful we no longer must make the hard climb out at the end of this long hike. We stow our packs away in our trucks, say our goodbyes, and head off in different directions for home to stick those cuttings and hope for good success.

For those desiring to hike this wondrous place, come to Chattanooga, Tennessee, drive US-27 North to the Thrasher Pike Exit, turn left on this road and go to Old Dayton Pike, turn right and go to Mobray Mountain Road and turn left, drive to the entrance of the Bowaters Natural Pocket, turn left and park. The trail head is on the right. If you desire a guide, contact me at the address or telephone number given below.

J. E. Schild has owned and operated Schild Azalea Gardens & Nursery, a niche nursery specializing in natives, for over ten years. He currently is the landscape Manager for Reflection Riding Arboretum & Botanical Garden in Chattanooga, Tennessee, as well as current Vice President and Program Chairman of the Tennessee Valley Chapter-ARS, and a member of the Oconee Chapter-ASA. Joe says he is an azalea nut and has chased those natives almost anywhere for nearly 30 years. He presents a number of programs with other chapters, garden clubs, and civic clubs each year and is listed in the ARS Speaker's Bureau. (1705 Longview St., Hixon, TN 37343, phone 423-842-9686) □
Photographs by the author

In Memory—Fred Charles Galle

August E. Kehr

Hendersonville, North Carolina

On July 26, 1998 the azalea and holly worlds lost one of their most illustrious horticulturists, Fred C. Galle, when he was tenderly laid in his final resting place at Pine Mountain, Georgia. He is known to persons all over the world for his books on azaleas and hollies. These giant achievements were made by an individual who was once told by a nurseryman that he was too small to dig trees and shrubs. By his attainments as a writer and horticulturist, Fred has proven that the pen is greater than a shovel and that brains are commonly more productive than brawn.

The love of green plants and the joy of growing them took root at an early age for Fred, along with a fascination for books. He was born on July 10, 1919 in Dayton, Ohio, where plants are so important in feeding the stomachs, as well as nourishing the souls of people who grow them. His love of horticulture came from his training at Ohio State University, where he got his Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Horticulture. He was in the service in World War II where he won a Purple Heart, Bronze Star and a Cluster.

Fred never got a Ph.D. He completed all graduate research and class work at the University of Tennessee and even had done a draft of his doctoral thesis. At that point he decided to visit Gregory Bald to take final notes for his doctoral dissertation about the azaleas there. One day while he was out looking over the magnificent display of plants, a bear ate his only draft of his doctoral thesis. He never found a single page of it. Fred always joked by saying he did all the work and wrote it up, but the bear got the degree. While the loss of the doctorate degree to Fred was personal calamity, the loss of several years of definitive research on the azaleas on Gregory Bald is a loss to the azalea world that is a major catastrophe. It is difficult to even try to assess the level of the loss of detailed knowledge about native azaleas on Gregory Bald as made by one of the world's greatest authorities during the period of 1947-1952. Such a history would be of extreme value to the Azalea Society today. It is most fitting that Robert Frost's poem "A Road Not Taken" was printed as part of the celebration of the life of Fred Galle.

I do not know when Fred and I first crossed paths, but I can recall with great clarity he asked me in 1981 to arrange a meeting with Dr. Henry Skinner, Dr. John Creech and myself to offer guidance on an outline, and a request of support on a project of writing a book on azaleas. The last version of *The Azalea Book* by Frederic P. Lee had become obsolete in the intervening quarter century. Little did we know that the meeting of four azalea enthusiasts would result in a 519-page masterpiece describing over 7,000 cultivars of azaleas as well as describing all the species of these plants known to the horticultural world. This book is listed as one of the "Fifty Great Horticultural Books" by the National Arboretum.

Have you, dear reader, any idea of the magnitude of effort that went into gathering names and details of the color, size, type of flower, names of hybridizers, parentage, year of introduction, and similar facts for 7,000 varieties? If not, sit down and prepare this same information for any ten varieties in your garden without referring to the book *Azaleas*.

Fred had a busy life. He was Director of Horticulture at the Callaway

Gardens in Pine Mountain, Georgia from June, 1953 until December, 1979, and continued to serve there as Curator until 1983 when the first edition of the book took up his full time. He was a member, and President of The American Horticultural Society, which awarded Fred their Liberty Hyde Bailey Award for Outstanding Contributions to Professional Horticulture. Also Swarthmore College conferred on him the Arthur Hoyt Garden Award. Fred was also a member and President of the American Rhododendron Society and was given a Gold Medal, the highest award of that Society.

The Holly Book, which was published in late 1997, is the first authoritative and comprehensive guidebook on these plants in the English language. In its 591 pages are described over 800 *Ilex* species, as well as all named varieties in cultivation. It is a companion book of reference to the one on azaleas. The Holly Society gave him the Shiu-Wing-Hu Award for Scholarly Publication on the Genus *Ilex*.

Other societies in which Fred Galle was active included the International Tree Conference and the Georgia Horticultural Society, from whom he received the Certificate of Merit. He won the Silver Medal of the National Council of State Garden Clubs and the Porter Henegan Award for Horticultural Research of the Southern Nurserymen's Association.

In 1964 Fred Galle was appointed to the elite Advisory Council of the United States National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., where he served until 1971.

About 15 years ago he sent me seed of *Rhododendron arborescens*. When the plants from this seed flowered, there were many plants that were clearly the true species, but some of the seedlings turned out to have yellow blossoms, and flowered in July and early August. When I asked Fred about the possible parentage of these unusual yellow deviants, he replied,

"I wish I knew because I would like to repeat the cross". It is perhaps very coincidental that on 17 July of this year Dr. Kathleen Kron of Wake Forest University identified the yellow plants as hybrids of *R. arborescens* x *R. prunifolium*. I am already in the process of propagating the best plant. Perhaps it would be fitting to name and register it as "Fred Galle" in his honor.

I was deeply honored when Fred asked me to write Chapter 12 in his azalea book. In appreciation he sent me autographed copies of both the original book, as well as the revised edition along with short statements above the autograph. These books are choice to me.

Fred Galle was truly one of America's most notable lecturers, writers, and horticultural consultants, and he will be sorely missed by all those who grow azaleas and hollies. Can you believe (as mentioned above) that a nurseryman once told Fred in his young formative years that he was too small to dig trees and shrubs?

To his wife, Betty, we send our warmest sympathy. □

[A similar version of this article has appeared in the ARS Journal, ed.]

IN MEMORY— ROBERT MIRAVALLE

Robert John Miravalle, past president of the Louisiana Chapter of the ASA and a retired scientist for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, died of complications from heart surgery at St. Tammany Parish Hospital. He was 69. Mr. Miravalle was born in St. Louis and received a BA and a Ph.D. degree in Plant Genetics from Washington University in St. Louis. His scientific work was in the field of fiber research. He lived in Folsom, Louisiana for the past 20 years and will be remembered for his enthusiasm for off-season fall blooming azaleas. He was a member and past president of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees. □

IN MEMORY—BILL LAND

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of Bill Land this past August. Bill was an active member of our Northern Virginia Chapter for many years, and had served as membership chairman for the last four years. He really loved growing azaleas and often provided special plants for our plant exchange. We will miss his presence and enthusiasm. □

IN MEMORY—ANDREW N. ADAMS, JR.

Andrew N. Adams, Jr. died on July 5, 1998. Andy Adams was the retired president of Ten Oaks Nursery. Ten Oaks Nursery founded by Andrew Adams, Sr., was one of the original distributors of the Glenn Dale azalea introductions. Andy attended Westtown School (operated by the Society of Friends) and served in the US Army in World War II. Andy is survived by his wife, Ruth. Following are two recollections of Andy Adams written by William C. Miller III and Roberta (Bobby) McCeney, both from the Brookside Gardens Chapter.

Bill Miller: I think I met Andy Adams for the first time in 1986. It was my first visit to the Ten Oaks Nursery in Clarksville, Maryland. During the course of my research into the Glenn Dale story, I had discovered a picture taken at the U.S. National Arboretum at the dedication of the Morrison Garden on May 3, 1954.

I recognized most of the people in the picture but there was one that no one at the National Arboretum could identify. One of the people in the picture was Andy's father, and I had been meaning to visit the Ten Oaks Nursery since, of the big three in Maryland (Ten Oaks Nursery in Clarksville, Henry Hohman's Kingsville Nursery near Baltimore, and Tingle's Nursery near Pittsville), the Ten Oaks Nursery was the only one still in existence. It was my hope that Andy would be able to identify the "unknown." From Bethesda, the road to Clarksville took me by the Triadelphia Reservoir and past mostly undeveloped farm land. In those days, Clarksville was out in the middle of nowhere, somewhere between Ashton and Columbia. My first impression of Andy remained the same throughout the time I knew him.

In short, Andy was a very nice person. He examined the picture carefully, but could not identify my unknown person. Then, perceiving my appreciation for historical material, he voluntarily pulled out several notebooks and files of correspondence between Ben Morrison and his father from 1948 and 1949 which he loaned to me without hesitation. I never forgot his kindness. I was a total stranger, and yet he was respectful, attentive, and genuinely helpful. I was to learn later that my colleague, Dick West, had received pretty much the same reception, but that is getting ahead of the story.

"Public speaking" was not Andy's strength. Andy and Ruth, his second wife, were soft spoken and both exhibited a quiet reserve. Andy spoke with a pattern that I will call "Maryland country" with a touch of "Baltimore." I had to listen carefully, because at times, I found him a little difficult to understand. Some of the problem was undoubtedly attributable to my hearing, but his sentences frequently tailed off to a soft ending. Andy did not speak much, but when he did it was because he had something worthwhile to say. He told

stories of their experience with the Glenn Dale Distribution program, of driving to Glenn Dale and filling up the back of a truck with stock size plants that had been especially set aside for them. He told of visiting Tharon and Milo Perkins and of providing azaleas for the Perkins Garden, now part of the Landon School in Bethesda, Maryland. He told of Ben Morrison and Albert Close paying social visits to the Ten Oaks Nursery. Andy was unmistakably a part of the Glenn Dale story. Despite his softspokenness, he was a robust and active soul. He had a noticeable limp, but it did not slow him down much. He did not talk at all about his medical problems, but I am sure that he found his deteriorating health a source of frustration.

I did not really get to know Andy well until I toured Japan with him. In the Spring of 1988, I heard that Dr. John Creech was planning a trip to Japan for the following Spring to coincide with the First International Azalea Festival in Kurume. At first I hesitated to go, but, rationalized that it was an opportunity of a lifetime and I could not afford not to go. Looking back, it was a unique experience, and I learned more than I imagined possible. It did not matter where we were; someone could point to an obscure plant by the side of the trail and want to know what it was, and someone always knew. Between John Creech, Andy Adams, Fred Galle, Bob Ticknor, and Naud Burnett, we had the plant kingdom covered. Confined to a bus or airplane for much of twenty-three days, we got to know our fellow travelers pretty well. Several years later our paths crossed again when I became involved with Dick West's Ten Oaks Glenn Dale project. Dick, living in Columbia, Maryland, just up the road, had approached Andy in 1987 with a request that he be permitted to study the Glenn Dale hybrids at the Ten Oaks Nursery. Dick had followed my interest in the story of the Glenn Dale hybrids through my articles in **THE AZALEAN** and recognized the opportunity that the Ten Oaks azaleas presented, a living museum one step removed from Glenn Dale. Dick was hard to say no to and so a collaboration at Ten Oaks commenced. Despite Andy's strong feelings about the

intrusiveness of the Federal Government into the affairs of the small businessman, he and Ruth both were very supportive of our efforts. On occasions, Andy enjoyed teasing us both about being federal employees. He always seemed knowledgeable about the current bureaucratic woes in the news, and wanted to know what we thought about it. We were always mindful that the arboretum where the Glenn Dales were planted out was really Andy's home, so we made a special effort to keep the commotion to a minimum. I think Andy enjoyed the flutter of activity and really admired Dick. Dick's untimely death in October 1996 was a shock to Andy, as it was to the rest of us. From time-to-time after Dick's death, Andy would pick up the phone and call me. He was just checking on me, and he always made the same offer. If there was anything that I needed or wanted in the way of plant material...I was welcome to it, just let him know. Thoughtful and generous, that was the way he was.

Bobbi McCeney: I met Andy in 1990 on what I thought was to be a two-hour visit to his nursery. After a three-hour talk on history with the azalea, lunch with Mamma and Ruth, a two-hour talk on the history of Ten Oaks, and a tour of the nursery and the surrounding area I realized he was an amazing man and a fount of information. In one day, I knew Andy was someone I wished I had met years before, and that day began a rewarding and lasting friendship.

Andy grew Glenn Dale azaleas for the annual Landon School Azalea Festival in Bethesda, Maryland, for several years. One day I was with him when Dick West came by and we came up with the idea that Landon should introduce the Princess azaleas. For Dick and me, this was just a thought for a few seconds; for Andy it was a done deal. We worked for several years and succeeded with the introduction of 14 Princess azaleas.

One fall Landon needed a few holly trees, and Andy told me he could give me a good price. I went out to buy them, and I left happy with what I considered a wonderful bargain. I didn't realize until I got home that I

had bought 21 trees. What a salesman!

Andy was a wealth of information and generous to a fault. There are many places that are more beautiful because of Andy's work. I can't walk through my garden or the Landon's Perkins Garden without remembering him with a chuckle; he was that kind of man and friend. □

IN MEMORY-- DEBBY EMORY

Mary Rutley: Debby Emory died October 29, 1998 of cardiovascular disease at Asbury Retirement Community, Solomons Island, Maryland. She retired in 1973 after 30 years as a commodity industry analyst for the U.S. International Trade Commission. She was then able to devote her time to the development and continuing expansion of a lovely woodland garden at their two- and one-half acre home off New Hampshire Avenue in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Debby was an avid and very knowledgeable gardener, and always willing to share her garden and plants with others. She was an active member of the Azalea Society of America, Brookside Gardens Chapter, since 1979. She was particularly interested in Glenn Dale azaleas but grew many varieties and cultivars and loved them all. She also contributed articles for **THE AZALEAN** and fact sheets for our chapter. She received the Frederic P. Lee Commendation of the Brookside Gardens Chapter for furthering the knowledge and appreciation of azaleas in 1987. She always participated in our annual May Azalea Show and very generously supplied both azaleas and companion plants for our two yearly plant sales.

This continued until she and her husband moved to Solomons in January 1997 along with many plants from the Silver Spring garden. She set about developing a garden at their new home with a woodland background, until increasing health problems made it too difficult. Debby was truly a lovely and caring person and we will miss her. □

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTERJoe 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 CHAPTERRuth 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 CHAPTERJoe 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 CHAPTERDianne 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.



Jean Cox (left, a long time member of the Brookside Gardens Chapter) receiving the F. P. Lee Commendation from Chapter Vice-President Mary Rutley at the Brookside Gardens Chapter meeting on December 7, 1998

New Members

AT LARGE MEMBERS

NANCY & RICK HOLMES
495 BEAUMONT ROAD
DEVON, PA 19333-1701
601-687-5683

ROBERT W. MOULTON
3970 MENENDEZ DRIVE
PENSACOLA, FL 32503-3138
850-438-5655

BROOKSIDE GARDEN'S CHAPTER

CAROL KIERNAN
4704 FORT SUMNER DRIVE
BETHESDA, MD 20816
301-320-6849

DEBORAH T. SUMERISKI
11616 OLD POND ROAD
GLENN DALE, MD 20769-9158
301-805-0253

DALLAS CHAPTER

GEORGE W. HYATT
1215 RIVER OAKS DRIVE
FLOWERMOUND, TX 75028-1346
972-355-5903

OCONEE CHAPTER

JUNE DUNCAN
135 MACKAY DRIVE
BRUNSWICK, GA 31525-4506
912-264-1951

Chapters' Forum

The new Chapters' Forum provides an opportunity for chapter officers and members to express their opinions about their chapter and the Society as a whole. This opinion is written by Joe Klimivicz, President of the Northern Virginia Chapter

The new chapter leadership will face many challenging issues. As a chapter and as a society, I believe we are at a critical crossroad. Membership is declining in our chapter and the society as a whole. Is this a problem? Membership is declining for almost all societies and clubs as more specific organizations are created. If this is a problem, what can be done to increase membership? If this is not a problem, how do we continue publishing a high-quality **AZALEAN** and producing successful national conventions? Do we want to change the direction that the society and chapter are headed? Where do we want the society to be in five, ten and 20 years? Do we want to be more of a scientific society or a social club? Should we merge with the Rhododendron Society? Personally, as I near the end of my four years of chapter leadership, I think that these critical issues should be openly discussed in our chapter. I am sure that Phil Louer would be glad to include responsible editorials in the Clipper, as they pertain to the chapter/society direction.

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