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# President's Letter

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L. Malcolm Clark

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As you will notice immediately, **THE AZALEAN** has expanded by 20%, half of that in color. This is made possible by a 15% increase in membership and done in the belief that this new level can be sustained. The important azaleas of our honorary member and "Queen Mother", Polly Hill, seem a fitting inaugural. Similar features are planned for succeeding issues. Surely a journal of this quality will serve as its own recruitment campaign, so show off your new AZALEAN! (The sign-up address is at the bottom of this page.)

There is one hitch in this. A larger **AZALEAN** means more articles. In a more perfect world the editor would have enough on hand to pick and choose, giving a theme to each issue. That is not the case and will not be unless YOU submit. What you know, what you believe, what you can't find out—broad or narrow. Your fears are unfounded for the editorial staff will lend whatever hand you may need. Just do it. It is for such endeavors that we have winter.

Most of you have renewed your membership, but for others 1992 dues are due. If it is important that you renew promptly for second notices are an unnecessary burden on an already tight budget. Speaking of which, it should be noted that only 5% carry a contributing membership. In the past it has been more than twice that. Let's fill up the first page of the membership roster.

More good news, in fact GREAT news. We have a new chapter in Georgia with some forty members, a majority new to the ASA. It's called The Oconee Chapter after the common name of our native species *R. flammeum* (formerly *R. speciosum*). Their by-laws have been approved by the ASA Board of Directors and their charter will be formally presented at the 1992 Annual Meeting, but they are open for business now. To date meetings have been held in Conyers, Georgia and most members are in a sixty or so mile radius. Certainly at-large members within reach should give Jim Thornton, the 1992 Chapter President, a call. And from the rest of us, a hearty welcome!  
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**THE AZALEAN** accepts advertising for products and services relating to horticulture as a benefit to the membership. The Editor reserves the right to decide upon the acceptability of any advertisement.

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*On the Cover:* North Tisbury Nakaharae Azaleas  
*Left to Right:* "Red Fountain", 'Yuka', 'Joseph Hill'

*Photographer:* Polly Hill

## 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 the series *Azalea* (subgenus *Anthodendron*) of the genus *Rhododendron* in the Heath family (Ericaceae).

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### OFFICERS FOR 1991-1992

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<b>Secretary</b>	Carol Flowers
<b>Treasurer</b>	Glenn W. Taylor
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### DIRECTORS

Terms Expiring in 1993	Terms Expiring in 1992
Rosalie Nachman	John L. Creech
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Chapter presidents serve as ex-officio directors.

### CHAPTERS

- Brookside Gardens** (chartered August 1979)  
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- Delmarva** (chartered May 1986)  
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- Dallas Chapter** (chartered May 1989)  
Stephen S. Brainerd, *President*
- Oconee Chapter** (chartered November 1991)  
Jim Thornton, *President*

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Regular membership is open to all interested parties for an annual contribution of \$20.00. Life membership is \$300.00. Members receive **THE AZALEAN** and are eligible for participation in all activities of the Society including those of the chapter with which the member affiliates. For information and membership application, write to the Secretary, Azalea Society of America, P. O. Box 34536, West Bethesda, MD 20827-0536.