

## **Letter to the Editor**

One of my tasks as Chairman of the George Harding Garden Committee has been to keep track of all of the contributions to the garden, whether in time, money and goods, or plants. To date, the value of the combined contributions is almost \$30,000, of which over half is time at \$10.00 per hour, almost one third is money and goods, and the rest is plants at approximate retail value.

There are a total of 55 contributors to the garden, some of whom aren't even members of the Azalea Society of America. Of these, the top three contributors combined have given almost 50% of the total, and the next three contributors combined have given another 20% of the total. At the other end of the scale, 15 contributors combined have given less than 1% of the total, with differing numbers in between.

This garden is a memorial for one of the most influential and best-loved founders of the Azalea Society of America. It has been endorsed by the officers of the Society as a worthwhile activity, and it promises to be one of the more important public outreach ventures of the Society. So why, with over 900 members, have only about five out of every 100 members participated at all? And why have we allowed only three contributors to give almost half of the total?

Think about it this winter, and decide how you're going to help. Money is the easiest way for many of us to help. Since we will be establishing a trust fund to cover the long-term maintenance of the garden, we can always use more money. Another way to help is to contribute a memorial bench, or to contribute some specific azaleas we will be looking for soon. The article about the garden in this issue gives more information about activities and progress at the garden, along with the necessary contact information.

**Robert T. Stelloh, Chairman**  
George Harding Garden Committee

**NOTICE**  
**Election of Officers 1994**

A ballot for the election of Secretary, Treasurer, and three Directors for the AZALEA SOCIETY OF AMERICA is enclosed as part of this issue.

The terms of these offices is two years.

The other officers and Directors are elected on alternate years.

Please mark the ballot and return it to:

Mr. Robert Stelloh  
15241 Springfield Road  
Darnestwon, MD 20874

The ballot must be received at the above address by April 15, 1994.

**PLEASE VOTE!**

**On the Cover:** The Harding Garden takes shape.

*Photographer:* Jean Cox

## 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).

## **OFFICERS FOR 1993-1994**

<b>President</b>	L. Malcolm Clark
<b>Vice-President</b>	Stephen S. Brainerd
<b>Secretary</b>	Carol Flowers
<b>Treasurer</b>	Glenn W. Taylor
<b>Immediate Past- President</b>	Robert W. Hobbs

## DIRECTORS

Terms Expiring in 1995	Terms Expiring in 1994
Rosalie Nachman	Tony Dove
Fred Minch	Denise Stelloh
Jeff Beasley	George Switzer

**Chapter presidents serve as ex-officio directors.**

CHAPTERS

**Brookside Gardens** (chartered August 1979)  
 Bill Johnson, *President*

**Richmond, Virginia** (chartered August 1979)  
 Robert Clary, *President*

**Ben Morrison** (chartered May 1980)  
 Dale Flowers, *President*

**Northern Virginia** (chartered May 1980)  
 David Raden, *President*

**Louisiana** (chartered June 1981)  
 Marge Jenkins, *President*

**Tri-State** (chartered October 1981)  
 Dr. James Dippel, *President*

**Flame Azalea** (chartered May 1984)

**Dallas Chapter** (chartered May 1989)  
Stephen S. Brainerd, *President*  
**Oconee Chapter** (chartered November 1991)  
Jim Thornton, *President*

Regular membership is open to all interested parties for an annual contribution of \$20.00. Life membership for an individual 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.