

**Ben Morrison Chapter**  
Dale Flowers, *President*

Our last meeting was our annual Christmas Party held December 12, 1993 at 2:00PM at the home of Dale and Carol Flowers. Fun and lots of food was had by all.

The next meeting of the Ben Morrison Chapter will be held in conjunction with the dedication of the Harding Garden at the American Horticultural Society Headquarters at River Farm.

The chapter voted to close the Glenn Dale Post Office Box due to the fact that Ed Rothe is retiring and will not be in that area very often. Mail will be forwarded to Dale and Carol Flowers at 12 Henson Landing Road, Welcome, MD 20693. □

**Brookside Chapter**  
Bill Johnson, *President*

The last meeting of the Brookside Chapter was held December 6 at the David Library in Bethesda. The speakers were Barbara Bullock and Susan Belsinger. Barbara Bullock, curator of the Azalea and Rhododendron collections at our National Arboretum, spoke about propagation of azaleas. The talk was directed to first-time propagators. Barbara demonstrated stem cuttings and showed examples with roots forming.

As a holiday treat to those in attendance Susan Belsinger shared some ideas to keep the holidays filled with spirit. Hope you took notes if you love flowers and appreciate good food. Susan is an open-minded cook who teaches and writes about food and gardening near Brookeville, Maryland.

Bill Johnson has received the F. P. Lee commendation for 1993. He is the first sitting president to be so honored.

Our future meetings will be April 4 at the Davis Library and June 6 at the Twinbrook Library. □

**Oconee Chapter**  
Pheleta Hambrick, *Secretary*

A meeting of the Oconee Chapter of the Azalea Society of America was held on November 14, 1993 at 2:00PM at the First Baptist Church of Conyers with 19 members and guests present.

The meeting was called to order by president Jim Thornton. Mr. Thornton reminded us that this was his last official meeting as president and introduced David Butler, the in-coming president for 1994. Jim also introduced the incumbent officers for the year, who will remain in their offices for 1994. They are: Tom Anderson, vice-president; Fred Vick, Treasurer, and Pheleta Hambrick, secretary. Mr. Thornton stated a new position had been added, which he would fill: Public Relations and Membership Chairman.

Jim explained the pictures shown in our newsletter were possible due to the convenience of the computer scanner the chapter purchased for use by our Editor, Jim Hambrick.

A sign-up sheet was circulated requesting volunteers for presenting programs, providing refreshments and other activities during 1994.



*Bill Johnson, Brookside Gardens Chapter President, is presented the F. P. Lee Commendation for 1993 by Mary Rutley, Chairman of the F. P. Lee Commendation Committee.*

An Executive Board meeting will be up-coming to plan the 1994 programs.

Mr. Allison Fuqua presented the first part of our program demonstrating proper soil mixture, method for watering and types of containers used for seed propagation of azaleas. This was most interesting and Mr. Fuqua gave the materials he had brought to anyone who desired to have them.

Following Mr. Fuqua's presentation, we had a refreshment break. Our thanks to Mr. Fuqua for the delicious candy-coated peanuts and to Patsy Thornton for cookies and beverages.

Mrs. Mary Beasley of Beasley's Transplant Nursery in Lavonia, Georgia presented the second part of the program. Mrs. Beasley gave an interesting slide presentation showing some of her favorite azaleas along with rhododendrons and native azaleas. Mary and her folks at Transplant Nursery welcome all to come see her place.

A drawing was held for a Porcelain Azalea. The winner was John Andrews.

Again, Mr. Thornton reminded each of us to enlist new members and to encourage attendance at our meetings. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned. □

**Glenn Dale Preservation Project 1994**  
William C. Miller III

The ASA's National project at the Glenn Dale station is entering its 12th year. The natural transformation of the woods area, where the majority of Ben Morrison's azalea work was done, is ongoing. A fascinating exercise in "succession," the tall oaks that provided the primary cover have begun to topple. The loss of shade has provided favorable conditions for "industrial-grade" weeds including some very pernicious members of the rose family (thorny weeds).

At the invitation of Dr. Ned Garvey, a meeting was held at his office at the Glenn Dale station on December 3, 1993, to review the ASA's existing permit, to bring him up to date on our activities, and to discuss the future of the ASA's project at the Glenn Dale station. In attendance were Dr. Garvey and his technician, a representative from the property office at Beltsville, Dick West, Barbara Bullock, Dr. Bruce Parlman, and myself. Dr. Garvey expressed his interest in our activities and indicated a willingness to provide limited assistance. We brought to his attention the need for help in dealing with the fallen trees which hinder access. In addition, we stressed the importance of periodic maintenance of the major paths into the woods area which have become badly overgrown.

The woods area which contains the azaleas is divided into discrete plots. With the assistance of Dick West, a thorough analysis of Plot 9 was undertaken. Based on documents describing the contents of Plot 9, Dick was able to reconstruct its organization and contents which included many rare Glenn Dale hybrids. We believe that we have

discovered a specimen of 'Alexandria', one of the Glenn Dale hybrids that was never officially distributed. In addition, we were able to confirm the identity of B32140, the plant from which 'Cinderella' and 'Satrap' were derived. We look forward to having an opportunity to evaluate the tentatively identified azaleas when they next bloom.

The Glenn Dale workdays for 1994 will all be Saturdays, as is the custom. The specific dates will be April 9th, September 17th, October 15th, and November 19th. Work will commence at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 1:00 p.m. or whenever we get tired. Gloves, shears, loppers, saws, and axes will be useful implements to bring. There are no rain dates, but anyone interested should check with me at the last minute to see if any problems have arisen which have resulted in the workday being canceled. As a matter of routine, I confer with Drs. Parlman and Garvey sometime during the preceding week to make sure that our planned presence does not present any problems for them. Occasionally, certain station activities, such as field sterilization, raise safety issues which necessitate

cancellation of our plans.

All are reminded that the National Germplasm Quarantine Center (formerly the Plant Introduction Station at Glenn Dale) is not an "open" facility. ASA members wishing to visit the station on other than scheduled workdays must make advance arrangements at least two weeks prior to the desired date by contacting me at (301) 365-0692. Consistent with the terms of the permit, I will request the necessary permission from the proper authorities to make the visit possible.

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### In Memory

Mrs. Janice Monyeen Carlson of South Salem, New York died Wednesday, November 10 at her home after an extended illness. She was 60 years old. Her husband of 35 years, Robert, operated Carlson's Gardens in South Salem for the past 25 years. Mrs. Carlson was born in Plattsburgh, NY, and was a 1951 graduate of Holy Name Academy in Albany and received her bachelor's degree in merchandising from Syracuse University in 1955. □

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## Azalea News

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### New Director of the U.S. National Arboretum

Thomas S. Elias, who headed the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont, CA, has been appointed director of the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, D.C.

Elias had been director of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden since 1984. He also had served concurrently as the chairman of the Department of Botany at the Claremont Graduate School.

Before becoming director of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Elias was assistant curator of the New York Botanical Garden's Cary Arboretum from 1972 to 1984.

He is a Fellow of the Linnean Society and the California Academy of Sciences, and he received the Cooley Award from the American Society of Plant Taxonomists. He was president of the American Society of Plant Taxonomists in 1986-87. □

## NOTICE!!!

*The dedication of the George Harding Memorial Garden will be held on May 14, 1994 from 10:00AM until 12:00 Noon at the American Horticultural Society's "River Farm". There will be plants of the azalea varieties which are in the garden for sale!! For information call (301) 840-1714. Come and help make it a great event for 1994!!*

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## ASA New Members

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### At-Large Members

John T. Denning  
1516 Mountain Creek Road  
Albemarle, NC 28001  
PHONE: (704) 982-1067

K. W. Gross  
11559 Boston State Road  
East Concord, NY 14055

S. Poff  
80-00 Cooper Avenue/Bldg. 20  
Glendale, NY 11385

Loren Southern  
89 Rolling Hill Road  
Skillman, NJ 08558  
PHONE: (609) 466-3155

Ralph R. Riehl, III  
5003 Watson Road  
Erie, PA 16505  
PHONE: (814) 838-4408

### Northern Virginia Chapter

Carlos & Carolina Lago  
6571 Zoysia Court  
Alexandria, VA 22312  
PHONE: (703) 256-5643