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**SOCIETIES, UNIVERSITIES,
LIBRARIES, GARDENS (Cont.)**

(no specific order/may not be a complete listing)

Helen Fowler Library (CO)
Lawrence Pierce Library (WA)
Longwood Gardens (PA)
Louisiana Growers (LA)
Missouri Botanical Gardens (MO)
Muskogee Parks and Recreation (OK)
Norwegian Arboretum (Norway)
Horticulture (MA) (magazine)
Royal Horticulture Society's
Garden (England)
Mass. Horticultural Society (MA)
Norfolk Botanical Garden (VA)
Delaware Valley College of
Science and Agriculture (PA)
Scott Arboretum/Swarthmore
College (PA)
Bok Tower Gardens (FL)
Southern Living (AL) (magazine)
Hillwood Museum (DC)
Holden Arboretum (OH)
University of California (CA)
Worcester County Horticulture
Society (MA)
Tower Hill Botanic Garden (MA)
American Horticultural Society (VA)
American Rhododendron Society (WA)
Andersen Horticultural Library (MN)
Arnold Arboretum Horticultural
Library (MA)
Auburn University (AL)
Australian Rhododendron
Society (Australia)
Bellingrath Gardens (AL)
Brooklyn Botanic Gardens (NY)
Brookside Gardens Library (MD)
U.S. National Arboretum (DC)
Burning Tree Garden Club (MD)
Covington Library (LA)
Dallas Arboretum (TX)
Ft. Worth Botanic Gardens (TX)
Glenwood Garden Club (MD)
Helen Crocker Russell Library
Strybing Arboretum Society (CA)
Garden Know How (GA) (magazine)

**WHOLESALE, RETAIL GROWERS,
AND SUPPLIERS**

(no specific order—may not be a complete listing)

Acadian Nursery and Garden
Center (LA)
Transplant Nursery (GA)
Blackwell Nursery (AL)
Shepherd Hill Farms (NY)

Briggs Nurseries (WA)
Carlson Gardens (NY)
Chandler Gardens (NC)
Collier Gardens (OR)
A&P Nursery (LA)
Cummings Gardens (NJ)
Tom Dodd Nursery (AL)
Eastern Shore Nursery (VA)
Rarflora Nursery (Australia)
Laurel Hill Nursery (TX)
Bills Creek Nursery (LA)
Garden South (GA)
Sunshine Farm (WV)
Goza Nursery (GA)
Hyde Park Nursery (MO)
Greer Nursery (OR)
Grimes Nursery (AL)
Che' Key's Nursery (GA)
James Harris Nursery (GA)
Kinney Nursery (AL)
Lazy K Nursery (GA)
Rocky Ridge Nursery (WA)
Meeks Nursery (GA)
Azaleas To Go (GA)
Hills Nursery (GA)
Stonehouse Creek Nursery (VA)
Northern Neck Nursery (VA)
McGinness Farms (GA)
McNeals Greenhouses (GA)
Milfields Nursery (CA)
Nuccio's Nursery (CA)
Flowerwood Nursery (AL)
Oak Hill Farm (SC)
Pinecrest Azaleas (MO)
Pike Nurseries (GA)
Pope's Azalea Farm (TX)
Reid's Azalea Farm (GA)
Richborough Nursery (FL)
Dogwood Hills Nursery (LA)
Rosemont Acres Nursery (OR)
Azalea Patch (NC)
Van der Giessen Nursery (AL)
Ted Van Veen (OR)
Vital Earth Resources (TX)
Green Spirit Nursery (LA)
Marshy Point Nursery (MD)
Ten Oaks (MD)
Azalea Acres Farm (MD)
Whites Nursery (MD)
Dutch Mans Farm (SC)
Wingards Nursery (SC)

HYBRIDIZERS

(no specific order—may not be a complete listing)

Hugh Caldwell (FL)
Fred Galle (IN)
Charles & Wanda Hanners (MD)

James Harris (GA)
Mark Hill (GA)
Dr. August Kehr (NC)
Ernest Koone (GA)
Joseph Kilmavicz (VA)
Fred Minch (WA)
Flowerwood Nursery (AL)
Nuccio's (CA)
Tom Rowland (GA)
Robert Lee (LA)
Dennis Royal (GA)
Lewis Shortt (GA)
Fred Sorg (SC)
Joseph Shields, Jr. (TN)
Dr. John Thornton (LA)
Don Hyatt (VA)
Bob Stewart (VA)
Steven Yeatts (GA)
Ray Goza (GA)
Earl Sommerville (GA)
Phillip Waldman (NY)

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

(no specific order—may not be a complete listing)

Naud Burnett (TX)
Steve Brainerd (TX)
Hadden Landscaping (TX)
McAdams Designs (TX)
Garden South (GA)
Pike Nurseries (GA)

CULTURAL NOTE

Importance of pH

Have you fertilized your azaleas well, but they still look anemic and stagnant in growth? The problem could be the pH of the soil. If the pH is not right for the plant, the plant can not get its nutrients.

How many of us know what the meaning of pH is? We all recognize it as a measure of the acidity of soil or water, and that's it. The actual definition of pH is a count of the hydrogen ions in gram equivalents per liter, which identifies the acidity of the medium. The "p" does not represent percentage, as might be imagined, but it is the mathematical symbol denoting the negative logarithm exponent of the concentration. Pure water has a hydrogen ion concentration of

IN MEMORY—JOHN C. PAIR

0.000001 per liter, which can also be expressed as 1×10^{-7} . The logarithm of this number is the exponent of 10, which is -7. This gives a pH of 7 (the negative exponent) and is neutral. A concentration of hydrogen ions greater than 10^{-7} is acidic, and a concentration of less than 10^{-7} is alkaline. Each change in pH by a whole number represents a change in concentration by a factor of 10. For example, a pH of 6.0 means the concentration is 0.000001, or 10 times as many hydrogen ions as for a pH of 7.0. *Lower pH numbers mean higher concentrations and higher pH numbers mean lower concentrations of hydrogen ions.* Got it?

We are familiar with the fact that the pH of a soil determines the availability of *proper* nutrients for plant growth. For example, azaleas and rhododendrons need a pH of 4.5 to 5.5, the range where soluble iron is available for the plants. Above 5.5, the availability of soluble iron falls off rapidly, which is not good for these plants. Insufficient chlorophyll is generated, the plants appear anemic, and growth ceases. Different plants have varying needs for nutrients, and thus need soil with the appropriate pH. A good pH meter can be used to indicate the pH of the soil; don't rely on inexpensive models. The best method is to obtain a good soil testing kit, or take a sample to the local extension office.

This Cultural Note is reprinted from THE AZALEA CLIPPER, the newsletter of the Northern Virginia Chapter. □

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Surely the Azalea Society has much to offer to the mass of gardeners buying and planting azaleas in their yards. The abundant expertise and the knowledge base inherent among the Society members, the thousands of varieties obtainable (many from other Society members only), the excitement associated with hybridizing beautiful flowers, should all contribute to making Azalea Society membership very attractive.

The non-renewals may be from disenchantment in the programs of the

With the death of John C. Pair, horticultural researcher and Director of the Kansas State University Horticulture Research Center, Wichita, Kansas, last January following a year-long battle with a brain tumor, the nursery industry lost a powerful advocate. As Director of the newly established Horticulture Research Center in Wichita, Kansas, John Pair established a woody ornamental research program that included the introduction, evaluation and sometimes propagation of ornamental plants that have shown superior performance in adaptability and offered potential for landscape use in Kansas. Among his many contributions are the Ozark Spring dogwood, which is suited to cold winters, and the Wichita osage orange, a thornless male selection. Among the many other accomplishments of Dr. Pair was his legacy to Wichita in the establishment of the city's Lawn, Flower and Garden Show, now considered one of the 10 best in the nation by Horticulture Magazine. In 1995, the American Society of Horticultural Sciences awarded John Pair the Distinguished Achievement Award for Nursery Crops, the highest award in horticulture, in recognition of his life's work.

If John had been asked what his mission statement was he would have said, the Horticulture Research Center and finding the best landscape plants for Kansas, suited because of their heat and drought tolerances as well as their cold hardiness. In the last 25 years Dr. Pair planted and evaluated hundreds of plants, often over 50 accessions in a single year. Of John's many findings Michael Dirr said "John is quoted in my book more than I am." John Pair's work included participation in numerous national plant evaluation trials, including NC-7, introductions of Harold Pellett of Minnesota, the U.S. National Arboretum, Morton Arboretum, and several nurseries. John was the type of person who instilled enthusiasm for plants in everyone he met. He was willing to share his interest and show each person he met how to plant the "seeds" of understanding plants, as well as the plants themselves.

The process is underway to rename the Wichita Research Center after John Pair, in memory of over 25 years of dedication to development of a highly respected center for horticultural research in the Midwest through integrated research, analysis, and education. The Board of Directors of the Wichita Lawn, Flower and Garden Show has established a \$1,000 endowed scholarship in John Pair's name for a horticultural student at Kansas State University. Other similar memorials are also underway. To all who knew John, his quiet easy going manner, and boundless enthusiasm, he will be missed.

For additional information contact Alice Le Duc, Assistant Professor, Department of Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources, Kansas State University, 2021 Throckmorton Plant Sciences Center, Manhattan, KS 66506. □

chapter, from expired interest in azaleas, or from developing physical limitations affecting the ability to continue gardening. As a chapter, we can do something about the first item, *the program of the chapter*. Any ideas here from members are welcomed.

But we must not relax in the endeavor to bring in new members; there are benefits to membership. We can help them in getting and/or maintaining their plants. We can interest them in plants they may have never seen, how they were hybridized, where the

original plants came from, and other background facts. It takes a group effort to accomplish this task. We have brochures explaining the benefits of membership; they will be available at the meetings or can be obtained by contacting the Chapter President, Joe Klimavicz.

When we look at the beautiful azaleas, we can see that they do their part in enriching our lives. It's up to us to see that the organization continues to expand this enjoyment to as many as possible. □