

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*).

OFFICERS FOR 1998-1999

President	James O. Thornton
Vice-President	William Bode
Secretary	Ruth Bryan
Treasurer	Robert Stelloh
Immediate Past-President	Stephen S. Brainerd

DIRECTORS

Terms Expire in 1999	Terms Expire in 2000
Gen. Bryghte Godbold	Robert Lee
Donald Hyatt	Maarten van der Giessen
Col. Murray Sheffield	Stephen Schroeder
Chapter presidents serve as ex-officio directors.	

CHAPTERS

Brookside Gardens (chartered August 1979) Dianne Gregg, <i>President</i>
Richmond, Virginia (chartered August 1979) Frank J. Digney, <i>President</i>
Ben Morrison (chartered May 1980) Joe Miller, <i>President</i>
Northern Virginia (chartered May 1980) Dan Krabill, <i>President</i>
Louisiana (chartered June 1981) Vincent J. Ciolina, <i>President</i>
Tri-State (chartered October 1981) Greg Wedding, <i>President</i>
Dallas Chapter (chartered May 1989) Roby Odom, <i>President</i>
Oconee Chapter (chartered November 1991) Mike McNeal, <i>President</i>

Regular membership is open to all interested parties for an annual contribution of \$25.00; life membership for an individual is \$500.00. 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 a membership application, write to the Membership Committee, Azalea Society of America, P. O. Box 34536, West Bethesda, MD 20827-0536.