

tained a specimen of *R. 'Marj T'* from Ben Morrison chapter member Carol Segree. He planted it in mid-November in the ASA George Harding Garden in the National Display Garden area at River Farm Plantation near Mount Vernon. He also planted a *R. prunifolium* from his own garden, which will go nicely with it.

Chapter officer elections were held at the November 12 meeting. Results are: President, David Nanney; Vice-President, Barry Sperling; Treasurer, Leslie Nanney; and Secretary, Lee McElvain.

Oconee Chapter

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Two programs were presented at the November 12 meeting: "Springtime in the Fall—Highlights of the ASA Convention in Charleston—A Slide Program," was presented with commentary by Frank Bryan, Joe Coleman, and Jim Thornton. "Get Ready for Winter—Construction of a Cold Frame," was accompanied by demonstrations and comments by Allison Fuqua. The business meeting covered the next steps in the process of revision of the

"Growing Azaleas" slide series cooperatively produced with the Rockdale Cooperative Extension Service (CES) Office in Conyers. After seeing CES agent Dr. Gary Wade demonstrate what can be done with a Power Point presentation format, such as viewing four slides at a time with one theme, the review group noted that the slide script would need further revisions. More slides are needed; all will be returned after scanning for the slide show. Internet images can even be incorporated. The next step is to have the new set of slides and script reviewed by the CES, then to get either an Oconee chapter member or a hired student to work with the CES computer and software to scan and incorporate the slides and prepare the graphics. CES does not have the staff to do these latter steps.

Seven new members joined as of November 2000. One hundred application forms were sent out, and five new members have joined, four for Oconee and one at-large.

The Chapter is especially pleased to welcome its members from the Rockdale House for Men, a residential treatment facility, which was founded in 1974 by a group of

Conyers, GA citizens to help men combat drug and alcohol addiction. While program funding comes from state grants-in-aid, local government, the City of Conyers, and local civic groups and private citizens, the residents in the program grow and sell plants for additional support. They have a small greenhouse where they grow annuals and hanging baskets. Jim Thornton presented a talk about growing azaleas to the hospital staff recently. The Oconee chapter is helping them grow azaleas to include in their sales. The Chapter would like your help, too, whether it's money, in-kind (plants, such as cuttings, liners, or larger plants), or time. Oconee chapter president Mike McNeal provided 2,000 plants (the Hester Collection plants). Ben Reid is providing consultation. The address for the Rockdale House for Men is 1060 Scott Street, Conyers, GA 770-483-3984, Rockdalehousemen@prodigy.net. For more information, contact Jim Thornton, 770-483-1583, or JOT@att.net.

The newsletter contained a three-page article, "pH and Its Impact on Soils and Azalea Growth," which will be reprinted in **THE AZALEAN** in the near future.

Joint Rhododendron and Azalea Society "Sunday Supper" Meeting at Dave & Buster's Restaurant, White Flint Mall

Phil Louer reported in "The Azalea Clipper" on the joint meeting of the rhododendron and azalea enthusiasts held October 29th. Nine members of the Northern Virginia Chapter attended, as well as people from a number of other chapters.

Don Hyatt hosted a well-received 15-question quiz on rhododendron and azalea questions, in the format of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire." Winners got first

choice to purchase plants after the meeting. The final verdict was that this was both an entertaining and informative way to distill experience and knowledge of growers. Dr. Joe Coleman from Atlanta, Georgia, then spoke about plans for the upcoming joint ARS and ASA Convention to be held in Atlanta, April 17-21, 2002. Room rates will be \$79 per night. The convention planners are now selecting gardens to visit. As samples, Dr. Coleman showed slides of Earl and

Verdie Sommerville's garden on the lower slope of Kennesaw Mountain, featuring many deciduous and evergreen azaleas, rhododendrons, with a small stream flowing through it. Coleman's slides of his own four-acre garden, nestled among large pine trees, showed many mature plants. He is a noted collector and hybridizer. He and wife Donna also have many Japanese maples, viburnums, hosta, daylilies, and wildflowers.