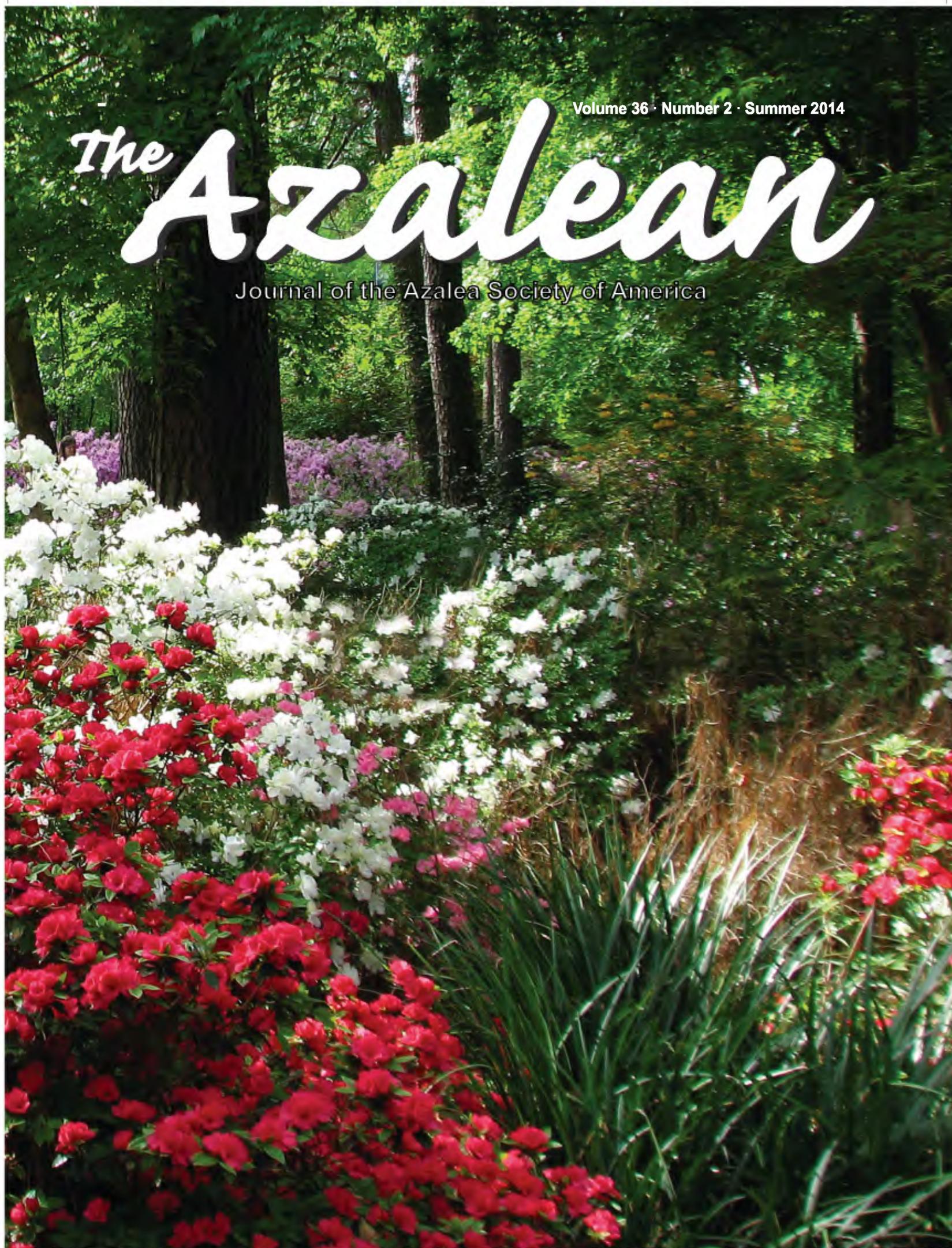


Volume 36 · Number 2 · Summer 2014

# *The Azalean*

Journal of the Azalea Society of America



# President's Letter

J Jackson — Trade, Tennessee



Dear Azalea Friends,

Summer quickly followed spring here in the Blue Ridge. We had unusually warm (80F) days in May and had to be more careful than usual to protect our azalea seedlings from getting desiccated.

I am extremely sorry to report the passing away of **Bob Stelloh** and **Ed Collins**. These two men have been so very important and inspiring to our society. Both Ed and Bob were personal mentors and friends to me. They will be sorely missed. We can honor and remember them best by keeping the ASA healthy and growing.



During a discussion the other day with one of our past ASA presidents, he lamented to me that since he had served in almost all capacities in the society that he felt at a loss as how to serve the society. My advice to him was to get very active again at the chapter level and maybe to serve as a chapter president again. To me the chapter presidents are some of the most important members of the ASA. The society is grown from the chapter level upward. National can assist by providing guidance to the chapters or in business and BOD business decisions, but the health of the ASA is determined by the health of its chapters. Most new members join at the chapter level and a few join during a convention.

The business of the society was conducted via an email meeting of the BOD this summer. The hope is that by meeting at least twice a year more issues can be resolved instead of being carried forward year after year. Details such as "Position Descriptions" for ASA officers will help the BOD serve in a more effective and efficient manner.

It will soon be seed collecting time again. The ASA seed exchange is a benefit that attracts more attention each season. My wife **Lindy Johnson** is chairperson of the ASA seed exchange. Please consider gathering seed from your favorite azaleas in the garden or in the wild and sending them to Lindy. It is preferable to send "uncleaned" seed capsules. Crushing the seed capsules is not a good practice because it causes mold problems on the germinating flats. We have seed cleaning tools here that work well.

Thank you to everyone who donated seed last season.

All the best,

*J Jackson*

J Jackson

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 and knowledge about azaleas which are in the subgenera *Tsutsusi* and *Pentanthera* of the genus *Rhododendron* in the Heath family (*Ericaceae*).

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(chartered October 2013)  
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Regular membership is open to all interested parties for an annual amount of \$30; life-membership for one or two persons at the same address is \$600. 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 Leslie Nanney, Secretary, 8646 Tuttle Road, Springfield, VA 22152 or visit [www.azaleas.org](http://www.azaleas.org).

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*The Azalean* (ISSN-1085-5343) is published quarterly (spring, summer, fall, and winter) by the Azalea Society of America, Inc., Leslie Nanney, Secretary, 8646 Tuttle Road, Springfield, VA 22152.

Additional copies of the current and back issues can be obtained from Azalean Back Issues, 1040 Snyders Store Rd., Wingate, NC 28174. Please include \$1 per copy ordered, plus \$1 per order. Orders from outside the U.S., Canada, and Mexico are \$2 per copy ordered plus \$2 per order.

Opinions and views expressed in *The Azalean* are those of the contributors or editor, not necessarily those of the Society, and are presented to foster a wider appreciation of and knowledge about azaleas. Advertisements are presented as a service to our readers and do not imply endorsement by the Azalea Society of America. Advertising and other contributions to *The Azalean* are used exclusively to help defray the costs of publishing *The Azalean*.

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Printed By: **The Georgian Press**  
Athens, Georgia



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# 2015 ASA Convention

## Texas Forest Country—Azalea Trails and Gardens

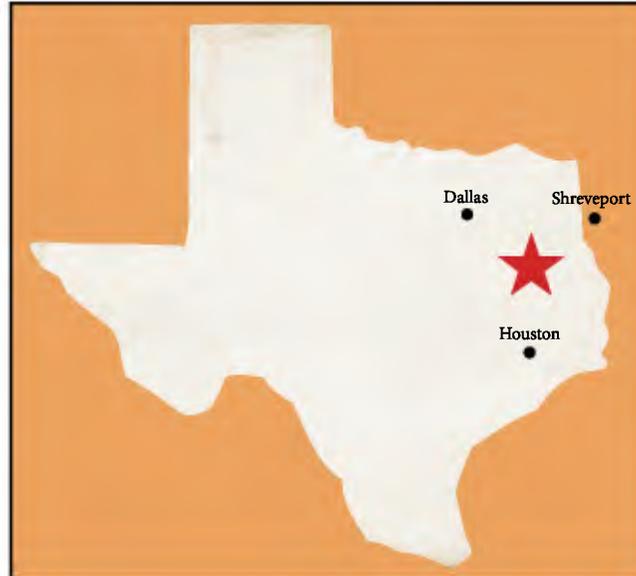
Barbara Stump, Nacogdoches, Texas

Our convention organizing committee welcomes you to a Texas you may not know. Think large public gardens and secluded private gardens shaded by loblolly pines, stately magnolia trees, and redbud and dogwood trees, not desert sand or acres of cactus. Join us March 26-29 in our magical small town that is bursting with pride to welcome you back. In 2014 we received official designation by the Texas State Legislature as the Garden

Capital of Texas, which speaks to the efforts of many local citizens, garden clubs, civic leaders, and Texas Chapter ASA members. The 68-acre Stephen F. Austin State University horticulture-program SFA Gardens helped to make our town a gardener's paradise. Plus, Nacogdoches was the very first officially recognized ASA Azalea City of America in 2004, with Buddy Lee doing the honors.

For those of you who visited us for the 2007 ASA Convention, some of this is a little repetitious, but folks from our newest chapters need to keep in mind that we are a USDA Zone 8b climate, and capable of growing a great diversity of azaleas, camellias, hydrangeas, and Japanese maples, without resorting to frost protection. Think hours, not months, of freezing weather. This is "balanced" by months of 85 to high 90s in the summer, so shade and water are still concerns. Being located in the Pineywoods ecological region that stretches eastward into the Carolinas, we are a crossroads of native trees and shrubs from diverse habitats--savannahs, swamps, creek beds, shady woodlands. This will show up in our garden visits and the plant sale.

So where is Nacogdoches? We are in northeast Texas (130 miles north of Houston, 200 miles southeast of Dallas-Fort Worth, 300 miles east of Austin, 340 miles east of San Antonio, and 96 miles west of Shreveport,



Louisiana, all of which have airports with rental car service. As one of our Nacogdoches Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) ads states, "We've been wowing visitors since 1779"! Nacogdoches has been a crossroads for travelers - Native Americans, settlers, tourists, and business travelers - for over 230 years. Our town sits squarely on the intersection of Texas Highways 59 and 21. The latter is also known as El Camino Real (the King's Highway),

which began as a network of Indian trails and connected to Mexico City when Texas was part of Mexico. It was designated as a national trail in 2004. The combined threads of plant diversity and complex history run consistently through all the events planned for the 36th ASA convention.

### Basic Information

This convention is co-hosted by ASA's Texas Chapter and the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden, one of the four gardens in the SFA Gardens of Stephen F. Austin State University. The convention hotel is the Holiday Inn Express & Suites, just south of town. You can check in at the Holiday Inn any time Thursday. The convention rate can be extended for a day before and a day after the convention. Please see the convention website for directions and maps, and the registration form on the wrapper of this magazine.

**Meeting Sites.** Most of our meetings, the Thursday Board of Directors meeting, and Friday lunch will be held on the 42-acre forested campus of SFA's Pineywoods Native Plant Center (PNPC) in our very new Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Center (IBCEB). The Saturday night banquet and annual meet-



ing will be held downtown in the historic Mast Hall on Main Street. Sunday's board meeting will be held at the hotel.

**Transportation.** SFA purple-and-white sports team buses will pick you up at the hotel and return you there after each day's events. For those of you who have your cars and prefer to drive yourselves, we'll have detailed maps. The drive is short and easy, less than 10 minutes.

**Plant Sale.** The plant sale will be open as often as possible, when we're not on the tours or in meetings (see attached schedule). You'll have plenty of opportunities to buy. We're offering both azaleas and hydrangeas, which are wonderful companion plants.

**Speakers.** Speakers have been chosen to emphasize the diversity of azaleas and other plant materials, and the history and legacy of their use in public and private gardens.

**Special Pre-convention Options.** If you arrive early, several of our downtown merchants have some special offerings for March 26: a stained glass class, a walking tour around our historic downtown museums and homes, and a painting class at a local art gallery. There will be a nominal charge and a minimum number required. To sign up, contact the Nacogdoches CVB directly at [www.visitnacogdoches.com](http://www.visitnacogdoches.com) or 936-564-7351.

### Event Highlights

**Thursday, March 26  
6:00-9:00**

#### Welcome Reception and First Speakers

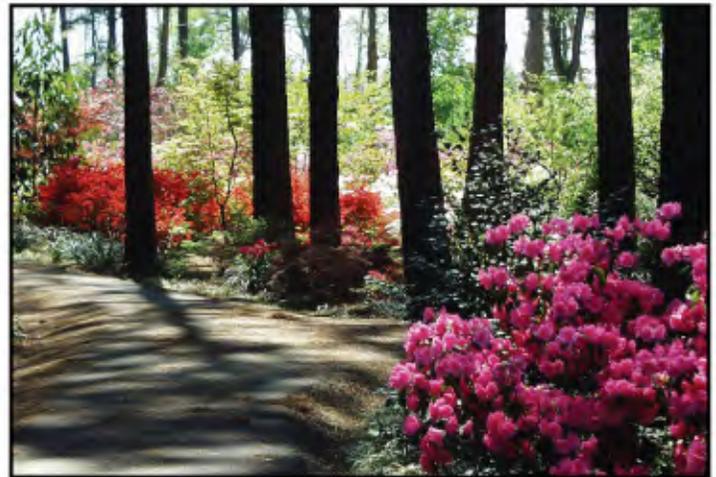
You'll arrive in time for the reception and a first look at the plant sale set-up—right by the meeting build-

ing. Dr. David Creech, Director of the SFA Gardens, will welcome you with an overview of the SFA Gardens. Next, Bart Brechter, Curator of Bayou Bend Gardens of the Museum of Fine Arts Houston will present "Hunting old Southern Indica Azaleas—Preservation in Action." We're proud of Bart, an SFA horticulture program grad. Dr. Creech will end the evening with his signature SFA Gardens plant raffle.

**Friday, March 27  
9:00-11:45**

#### Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden and Mast Arboretum

By 9:00 a.m. you'll be in the SFA Gardens Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden for 2-3/4 hours of strolling through the 8-acre azalea garden and the 10-acre Mast Arboretum. Both Dr. Creech and Barbara Stump will be on hand to lead tours of the highlights of the two gardens. But, if past experience is any indication, you may just want to prowl on your own, taking lots of photos.



#### Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden

The Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden is now 19 years old, eight years older than when ASA visited in 2007. The collections of azaleas, camellias, Japanese maples, deciduous magnolias, and other unique Dr. Creech-found trees and shrubs have put on great growth, and we've had to begin some judicious pruning. Now there are also 52 benches, so that you can sit and enjoy the views of azalea colors from our over 550 species, cultivars, or selections. We can't wait to show you how the garden has grown and mellowed. This garden is the centerpiece of the annual Nacogdoches Azalea Trail. So much of the collection is due to the support, guidance, and generosity of ASA members through the years as we evaluated new plant material.



### **Mast Arboretum**

To get to the Mast Arboretum, just cross our lovely bridge over LaNana Creek. The Arboretum includes growing facilities for our twice-yearly plant sales and a Timerframer's Children's Garden Pavilion/Butterfly Garden. Dr. David Creech, staff, graduate and undergraduate students have been developing this garden since 1985. As a horticulturist, researcher, and self-avowed believer in 'drifts of one' for evaluation purposes, the garden has collections from Abelia to Zenobia. He will be more than happy to take some of you on a break-neck-speed tour of this garden of diversity. We received the first azalea collections in 1987 when Dr. Creech visited John and Evelyn Rochester at their Dogwood Hill Nursery in Franklinton, Louisiana. Not only did John give Dr. Creech 157 different specimens, he also sent a flat of 41 rooted Kurume cuttings originally collected by US National Arboretum Director Dr. John Creech in Japan and Korea. A number of these are still alive and well.

### **Noon-1:45**

#### **Lunch in the Stump Garden**

At 11:45 a.m. we'll board the buses for a very quick bus ride through one of Nacogdoches' four historic districts to have lunch (by one of our home-town caterers famous for her Southern fried chicken) and social time at my house. The home is a 1901 Queen Anne style restored in 2002-2003, colorfully painted, but with modest decorative gable fretwork. Originally built for Philip Sanders, a cotton broker, talented craftsmen used heartwood of the then-plentiful longleaf pine for paneling in the parlor, den, dining room, the beautiful staircase, and the second-floor landing. You are invit-

ed to tour the home and stroll the easy-walking trails through the garden.



Things have certainly grown on the 2-1/2 acre property since 2007, with enough eleagnus, loropetalum, and viburnum to hide the view of the quick-mart across the street. This mixed shrub border design element is based on an age-appropriate Victorian landscaping technique. I reveled in the many colors of azaleas in my work in the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden, and my orange, purple, white, and yellow azalea combination under a huge red oak tree is no exception. Since 2007 a new "ravine garden" has been added of Encore® azaleas, a "tamed" white wisteria, camellias and deciduous azaleas, plus a few samples of East Texas "yard art" from recycled objects.

### **2:00-3:00**

#### **Bill Elliott Garden**

We'll board our buses at 1:45 p.m. to drive along part of the 22-mile Nacogdoches Azalea Trail and see lovely homes and gardens along Raguet Street. Near the end is the home of Bill Elliott. He's a successful South-

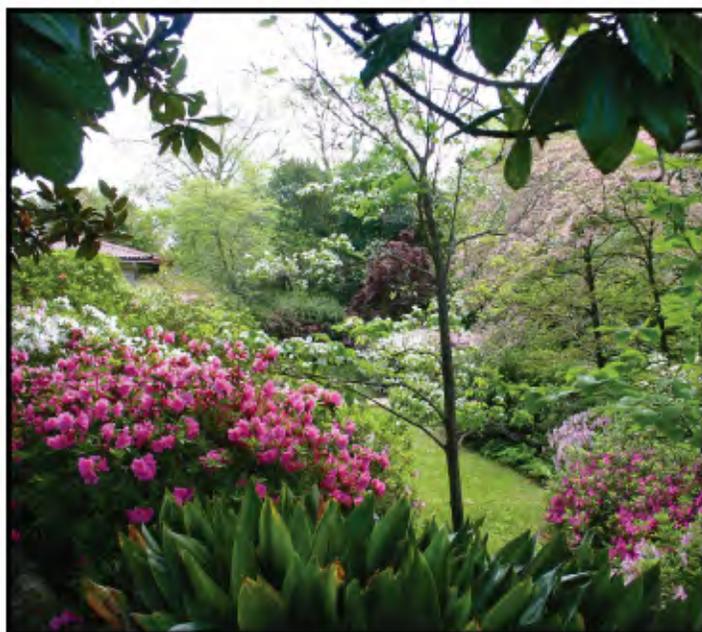


east Texas businessman who is also an avid gardener and lover of azaleas. His late wife Mickey began the process, making sure a large bed by the pool house was planted in early-blooming Glenn Dale 'Geisha' azaleas. Last year's cold spring made this the brightest azalea-blooming spot on the historic home tour in mid-March. Bill frequents our twice-yearly plant sales and is now a true fan of the yellow deciduous azaleas that he saw in our SFA Gardens. These make a very bold statement in his front yard along with pink Kurumes and 'Pink Ruffles'.

**3:30-3:45**

**Nancy Tipton Garden**

At 3:15 we'll take our buses back down Raguet Street to see one of the most photographed gardens in Nacogdoches. We'll just stop for pictures from the street because the garden is literally built along a steep ravine, and walking down into and out of the garden would be difficult for our large group. The mature pink dogwood trees, purple "tulip trees" (deciduous magnolias to Northerners), and pink azaleas cascading over the rock retaining wall are breathtaking. Nancy Tipton continues to maintain a garden that has been a "show-stopper" in Nacogdoches since the 1950s.



At 3:45 you'll have the choice of going to the PNPC to browse the plant sale in one bus or take the other bus to the hotel to arrange your evening dinner plans. The plant sale bus will be sure to get the plant sale crowd to the hotel by 5:15 and both buses will bring you to the IBCEB for the evening speakers.

**7:00-9:00**

**Friday Night Speakers and Fun**

**Ronnie Palmer** of Azalea Hill Nursery and Gardens in White Hall, Arkansas will share his 40 years of growing experience in Arkansas, in a short talk about his Satsuki and Huang azaleas and other favorite hybrids. Then Buddy Lee will talk about old and new deciduous azalea developments, privately and in the industry. The surprise of the evening will be the annual ASA plant auction, rounding out the evening to add excitement and keep Saturday evening a reasonable length.



**Saturday, March 28**

**9:00-10:15**

**Dr. and Kay Furniss Garden**

Our first stop at 9:00 a.m. is a country garden that Dr. Ed and Kay Furniss have been creating since 1975. The drive is short, but you'll see some very typical East Texas scenery. The Furnisses moved to the property initially to raise quarter horses. But a SFA Arboretum plant sale sparked Ed's interest in serious gardening. He's been a dedicated plant buyer, testing what worked and what didn't, including a variety of different azaleas. His mature Southern Formosa azaleas flank a grand entry into the farm, but they also have large collections of

*(cont. on page 42)*

# Azaleas in the Life and Work of Beatrix Farrand

Martha A. Derthick, Charlottesville, Virginia



Asticou Azalea Garden

Beatrix Farrand was one of the great landscape gardeners of the twentieth century. She was a lover of azaleas, native azaleas especially, but it would be hard to detect this from her commissioned work, which, though abundant, has been ravaged by time. Of her two surviving masterpieces, the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Garden in Seal Harbor, Maine, and Dumbarton Oaks, the estate of Robert Woods and Mildred Bliss in Washington, D. C., only the latter makes use of azaleas. The Rockefeller Garden combines a Chinese wall, Oriental sculptures, and an interior of perennials and annuals in the style of English border gardens. Dumbarton Oaks is a formal Italianate garden of awe-inspiring complexity, in which one small garden among fourteen distinct enclosures features a low hedge of azaleas with large white

flowers (*Rhododendron mucronatum*). This garden is called “The Star,” taking its name from decorative astrological figures of lead—Aries, Capricorn, Pegasus, and the Phoenix—that surround a lead star and pebble mosaic set in the terrace. Farrand also placed an “occasional plant” of the same azalea, among other “fine-leaved evergreen sorts,” against the walls of the Green Garden, which is a large space adjacent to the mansion.

To grasp Farrand’s engagement with native azaleas it is necessary to look to the Arnold Arboretum in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, a section of Boston, where her formal training in landscape art began at the end of the nineteenth century, and to the Asticou Azalea Garden in Northeast Harbor, Maine, where her large private collection of azaleas found a loving and very beautiful

home after she made the difficult decision to dismantle her house and garden in Reef Point, Maine, in 1955. Both are remarkable stories in the history of American gardening. The Asticou story is near to miraculous.

It is not obvious that a child of the New York aristocracy would become engaged with native azaleas. Farrand was born in a townhouse in 1872 to members of the New York and Philadelphia elite. She lived in New York until her marriage to a Yale professor of history in 1913. She traveled to Europe. Though she came at a young age to know the American wilderness, it was the wilderness of Maine, not North Carolina. All of her clients would come from the same social stratum and the same places. None of her commissions were south of Washington, D. C. Most were in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, and New York. She worked on the campuses of Yale and Princeton, and on the White House grounds for the wives of Woodrow Wilson. She designed the grave markers at Sagamore Hill, Oyster Bay, New York for President Theodore Roosevelt and his son Quentin, who was killed in World War I. When her husband became director of the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, in the late 1920s, her career suffered. Her one major, gratifying commission in California came through her Dumbarton Oaks friendship with Mildred Bliss, who helped arrange a consultancy at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden that lasted from 1938 to 1950. She gained influence there during World War II because the garden's architect and botanist, Lockwood de Forest, Jr., was overseas, but design responsibility still was shared between them. The Northeast, Maine especially, was her home.

The origins of her formative encounter with native azaleas are traceable to Brookline, Massachusetts, and her tutelage at Holm Lea, the estate of Charles Sprague Sargent. Sargent was the pioneering director of the Arnold Arboretum, which Harvard created as a place for the collection of woody shrubs and trees from the Northern Hemisphere. The Arnold Arboretum was founded in the 1870s, at about the time Farrand was born. Already interested in plants and garden design before she turned twenty, she first visited it in 1890, and soon was invited into the Sargents' home. She made extended visits in 1893 and 1894, with tours led by Sargent, at a time when the Arboretum was taking shape with roads and trails laid out by his Brookline neighbor, Frederick Law Olmsted. In 1894, the Sargents took Farrand on a visit to Biltmore, the Vanderbilt estate in North Carolina, for which Olmsted was designing the landscape.

There is nothing to indicate that the Biltmore visit in particular awakened Farrand to the beauty of native azaleas, for they had already been planted on the grounds of the Arboretum. Indeed, Harvard to this day proudly claims credit for the introduction of *R. vaseyi*, the pink native of North Carolina that figures prominently in the collections of both the contemporary Arnold Arboretum and Asticou in Maine. According to the Arboretum's website, *R. vaseyi* was named in 1878 by Asa Gray, Harvard's pioneering botanist, and accessioned by the Arboretum two years later. So Farrand could easily have met it there, and we know from an entry in a notebook she kept in 1894 that she met *R. calendulaceum* on an outing with Sargent. He was taking her to the Arboretum, and they stopped on the way to look at the collection left by Harvard's Professor Francis Parkman, who had died a year earlier. The sight was dreary, Farrand's notes say, the house being torn down, paths overgrown, and long grass springing up everywhere. But the "Azalea calendulacea" was still fine.

Farrand would remain a friend of Sargent and regular visitor to Holm Lea until his death and a friend of the Arboretum until hers. Fittingly, she returned in a professional capacity as a landscape design consultant, her last commission, between 1946 and 1950, when she was in her 70s. At this time she designed an azalea border that is prominently located along the road through which most visitors enter the Arboretum from Boston's Arborway, as the highway has come to be called.

In a brief essay for *Arnoldia*, the Arboretum's periodic bulletin, she described the azalea border in 1949. There was a series of groups with colors that "will harmonize and give interest from earliest spring to latest autumn." Among the earliest would be *R. mucronulatum*, not a native but an introduction from China, that she described appreciatively: "The crinkled petals ... when they first appear, look as though they had been ill packed during the winter in a small valise, but they soon lose their wrinkles in the sun and air and show their deep maroon brown dots at the centre of the tremulous wind-swept flowers." She proceeded to list lavender species that bloomed early, pinks beginning with *R. vaseyi*, "which is hardy in the far north and flowers generously each year if given proper food," *R. schlippenbachii*, a Chinaman "that has taken kindly to our country and is never dull or dowdy," *R. arborescens* "with its deep red stamens lifting themselves from the pale pink flowers," *R. viscosum*, "the latest and sweetest and tallest of our native sorts," then nudiflorums (*R.*

*perichlymenoides*) and roseums (*R. canescens*), and finally *R. calendulaceum* “and their fellows in the orange scarlet and yellow shades.” Her drawings accompany the text. The azalea border survives, somewhat revised by a curatorial review and renovation in 2007, with due acknowledgment to Farrand on the Arboretum’s website (<http://arboretum.harvard.edu/plants/featured-plants/azalea-border>)

The Asticou story is more dramatic, for it grows out of Farrand’s failure to achieve preservation of her own garden in Bar Harbor. Having failed, she chose demolition, but through an act of courage and rare creativity on the part of a prominent local citizen, Charles K. Savage, her azaleas were saved and became the core of a new garden. Even without bearing her name, it could not be a more fitting evocation of her life, dedicated as she was to the art of the garden.

Not long after Farrand’s marriage at the age of 41, her divorced mother gave her the six-acre Reef Point house and garden. She and her husband regularly spent long summers there, steadily improving a naturalistic garden, and as their professional careers neared an end they collaborated on turning the property into a center for the study of the artistic use of plants, to be useful “to all who are interested in outdoor beauty.” When Max Farrand died in 1945, his widow carried on with plant labeling, house remodeling, and other preparations. The garden was open from early morning to dusk, and many visitors came—over 2,000 in 1945. Among the large and varied botanical collection, there were approximately 250 azaleas, planted in groups that are identified by color on site maps. Farrand had turned to her friends at the Arnold Arboretum for help in accurately identifying everything.

By 1955, it became clear that the project had to be abandoned. She could not afford it. A critical event was a catastrophic fire that ravaged Mount Desert Island in the fall of 1947. Though Reef Point itself was spared, many very valuable houses of very rich summer residents were wiped out, and with them much of Bar Harbor’s tax base. Farrand was unable to get a tax exemption for her property. Also, federal government taxes, not a consideration when planning for the project began, had become one. And tourists’ tastes appeared to be changing. In a deeply felt letter to friends and supporters of the project, she began by recalling that the world was different when she and her husband had begun planning in the 1930s, “before the second great war [and] life was keyed in another and quieter note.”

It was now better to dissolve everything than to face deterioration of the garden. She sold the property and the house was demolished, but the plants were saved by the vision, energy, and executive ability of Savage, then 52 years old, who was running the Asticou Inn, his family’s hotel property in Northeast Harbor.

Savage had the daring idea that he could transplant much of Farrand’s garden to a four-acre alder swamp across the road from his hotel, which was several miles from Reef Point. More than that, he had the imagination to conceive of using her plants and the rocks and pines of the island to create a Japanese stroll garden. He had not really intended to be a hotel owner. He was planning to study architecture at MIT, but the premature death of his father diverted him. There was experience with architecture and construction in his family, the summer residents were a source of instruction, and he had read books about the Japanese gardens of Kyoto. He visited Japanese gardens at various sites in the United States, such as the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. He had a lot of good help from expert crew members on the island, who were able to dig plants with big root balls and wrap them in burlap. Big flatbed trucks were brought in from Boston to haul some of the largest tree specimens. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., often a generous benefactor when the island environment was at stake, gave money. Rockefeller and his late wife, Abby Aldrich, were good friends of Farrand. She instrumental in creating Mrs. Rockefeller’s garden and helped Mr. Rockefeller with the landscaping of carriage roads and bridges that he had built.

Incredibly, the new garden was ready to receive visitors in two years. Farrand was chauffeured to the site every two weeks or so to watch its progress. She was now more than 80. In June 1956, Savage received from her a typed note thanking him “most gratefully for all your interest, your care and your friendship.” In a firm hand, she added, “It is a comfort to know that the plants from R. P. will continue their lives with you.”

Taking azaleas as my subject, I have neglected to note Farrand’s passion for other plants and for plant families. She conceived of the azalea border as a collection of Ericaceae, and opened it with a bed of heaths. “The heaths belong to a beautiful family; it is hard to think of a single member that has not some special distinction and elegance . . .” There were many heaths and also heathers, which are technically of different genera, at Reef Point, lending an undulating softness to the landscape. She loved roses, both climbers and single

roses. A cascade of forsythias along a set of steps is a memorable feature of spring at Dumbarton Oaks. The Arnold Arboretum would introduce a forsythia cultivar that bears her name. Her love of horticulture, along with her gift for design and an intense commitment to her profession, was critical to the success of her career. Her visitor's guide to the Reef Point garden, published in 1950 and sold to visitors for ten cents, reads like a botanic encyclopedia.

Plants from Reef Point came not just to Asticou, but also to its near neighbor Thuya, whose garden features perennial beds as well as some of the evergreen specimens that were saved. On an elevated site above Asticou, Thuya became a temporary winter resting place for plants excavated from Reef Point. After the installations at Asticou had reached a satisfactory state, Savage turned to work on Thuya. Thuya and the granite steps and lookouts over Northeast Harbor that lead up to it, which are called the Asticou Terraces, had begun as the project of a landscape designer and civil engineer from Boston, Joseph Curtis, who was a summer resident. After Curtis died in 1928, Savage had been appointed by town officials to succeed him as the sole trustee of the Asticou Terraces. Thus, he was in a position to create not just one beautiful garden with Farrand's plants, but two. Azalea lovers who visit Asticou should be sure to visit Thuya as well.

Less obviously, and even more poignantly, a third garden was made of material transplanted from Reef Point. Here the designer was Farrand herself, and the planted area was less than a tenth of an acre. After the large house at Reef Point was demolished, Farrand and her architect, Robert W. Patterson, collaborated in creating a modest dwelling for her remaining life. This took the form of a wing added to a farm house that was

owned by Lewis and Amy Garland, whom Farrand had employed, Mr. Garland as a chauffeur and handyman, Mrs. Garland as a horticulturist. The house was Lewis Garland's ancestral home, located on 100 acres several miles north of Bar Harbor in an area with the evocative name of Eden. Farrand brought many of her favorite plants, including of course azaleas, to the new location, and surrounded herself, a personal caretaker, and the Garlands with them. Garland Farm, reduced from 100 acres to a little less than five, is today owned by the Beatrix Farrand Society, which was formed in 2003 "to foster the art and science of horticulture and landscape design" with emphasis on her life and work. A major project of the Society has been to restore the terrace gardens that Farrand and her caretaker could access from their apartments through French doors. A study/sitting room situated between the apartments overlooks beds of heaths and heathers interplanted with lavender.

The Asticou Azalea Garden, tucked away improbably on a tip of Mount Desert Island in Maine, richly deserves the attention of azalea lovers, and a welcome step in that direction took place at the annual meeting of the Azalea Society of America in Charleston in 2014, at which Mary Roper, Asticou's manager, gave a well-received talk. For information about the azaleas in the garden, see <http://www.gardenpreserve.org/asticou-azalea-garden/plant-list.html>

For information on Garland Farm, which has visiting hours during the summer, see [www.beatrixfarrandsociety.org](http://www.beatrixfarrandsociety.org).

**Martha Derthick** is retired from the faculty at the University of Virginia, where she taught American government.

The <i>Azalean</i> Publication Schedule		
ISSUE	DEADLINE	PUBLISHED
Fall 2014		January 2015
Winter 2014	January 1, 2015	February 2015
Spring 2015	February 1, 2015	March 2015

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# Chapter News

## **Rev. John Drayton** (by **Linda Wood**)

The Reverend John Drayton chapter of the Azalea Society of American is looking forward to our January 2015 meeting where **Ernest Koone**, President of Lazy K Nursery in Pine Mountain, Ga will speak to us on native azaleas, a specialty of his nursery. We will meet on Monday, Jan 26, 2015 at 6:30 PM in the Carriage House at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens, 3550 Ashley River Rd, Charleston SC.

## **Northern VA Chapter** (by **Barry Sperling**)

An active spring and summer has been enjoyed by the Northern VA Chapter members.

Twenty-seven of us ventured down to South Carolina for the annual convention, contributing a sizeable slice to the attendance.

On May 17 many came to help with the successful Green Spring Gardens plant sale with the lion's share of the work shouldered by **Carolyn** and **Paul Beck**, both growing and transporting the azaleas. The lateness of the season contributed to the fine blooms available, even in late May.

Surprisingly, the bitter and extended cold in the East last winter didn't seriously affect the blooming season, except for shifting it back about 10 days and the displays were generally great.

On July 20th the always popular Cutting Exchange at the Beck's brought in associate members from far afield, including **Joe Coleman** all the way from Georgia. **Carolyn Beck** gave a fine demonstration on rooting the cuttings and many went away with their cuttings already started.

An active fall season began with the annual sale and auction of hundreds of plants on September 20th. President **Lars Larson** arranged for the use of the Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, **Phil Louer** and **Larry Martin** donated many plants, **Carolyn** and **Paul Beck** did the lion's share of the plant care and their transportation. Also, **Paul Beck** computerized the sale with the ability to accept credit cards and read bar codes on each plant, allowing an automatic printed receipt. A large number of chapter members helped out with the required grunt work and **Bob Harrison** did his usual masterful job of auctioneering, keeping us entertained for hours!

On October 11th we joined with 3 Rhododendron Society chapters for a luncheon at the Wildfire Restaurant where we were treated to a great talk by **Harold Greer**, of Greer Gardens in Eugene, Oregon, concerning rhododendron diversity.

Computer guru **Paul Beck**, along with **Dave Banks**, used the registrations for the luncheon and the auction sales to test out the systems that will be in use during the 2016 ASA convention in Williamsburg, VA.

We're looking forward to our Holiday Social on December 7th at the home of the Kirkwoods!

## **Ben Morrison Chapter** (by **Bee Hobbs**)

The Ben Morrison Chapter of the ASA had its annual cutting picnic at the lovely water-side home of **Dr. Joe Miller** in California, MD on Saturday, July 12. There were lots of cuttings available for members to choose from. Along with Joe, in attendance were **Peter** and **Debra Hughes**, **Bill** and **Peggy Myers**, **Bob** and **Rosa McWhorter**, **Carol** and **Dale Flowers**, **Budne** and **Diane Reinke**, **Bill** and **Gabrielle Scott**, **Harold Belcher** and **Bee Hobbs**. It was a gorgeous day and conversation, food and drinks flowed galore! **Joe Miller** was kind enough to provide a tour of his fabulous garden for the attendees. Cuttings were exchanged and there was a short business discussion suggesting that we combine activities with the Potomac Valley Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society and the Northern Virginia Chapter of the ASA. A motion was made to give a donation to London Towne Gardens in the amount of \$1,000 to help support the work in their Native Azalea Garden and to schedule a meeting there.

## **FACEBOOK**

The ASA Facebook page would love to help promote chapter events. If your chapter has a page please let us know if you post an event. Also, if you do not have a page and want us to promote the event please email us and we will promote it. Also, if anyone has any ideas on posts - even if it is not an event - please let us know. We like to post more than just flower pics.

Chris Wetmore	chriscwetmore@yahoo.com
Patrick Thompson	THOMPPG@auburn.edu
Sandy Yakob	sjyakob@hotmail.com

# Recognizing Generous ASA Members

*Dan Krabill, Treasurer*

I would like to recognize and thank the following members who made donations to the Operating Fund of the Azalea Society of America in 2014 by paying dues in excess of the \$30 annual regular amount or by making direct payments to the ASA. We have three categories for donations – Contributing (payment of \$50 to \$99 for the year), Sustaining (\$100 to \$199), and Endowment (\$200 or more). These payments provided more than 5 percent of our income and are very important in carrying out the work of the ASA.

## Contributing Members

Jeff and Leabeth Abt  
Parker Andes  
Miles & Brenda Beach  
BoxLee Azaleas  
Virginia & Samuel Burd  
Dr. Joe H. Coleman, Jr  
Janelle Corey  
John E. Cram  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth E. Graham  
Laura Grant & Robert Ramik  
Joseph E. Gutierrez, MD  
Harold and Caryl Hall  
Nancy & Herbert Hargroves  
Bob Head  
Bob & Martha Kelly  
Dr. Alan R. Kilvert  
Magnolia Plantation & Gardens  
Jane Perry McFadden  
Dr. Patrick McKenna  
Larry Miller  
Gloria Banks Ormsby  
The Polly Hill Arboretum  
Budne & Diane Reinke  
Debbie Sheehan  
Benjamin D. Taylor  
Roger A. Thompson  
Billie Trump  
Cathy Walgate  
Andrew P. Whipple

## Sustaining Members

Louis J. Appell, Jr  
Stephen Ash  
Suzi and Nelson DuRant  
Eve Harrison  
Kinney Nursery  
Dan & Barbara Krabill  
Mrs. Lawrence Nachman  
Shane Roop  
Cecil and Gloria Settle

Barbara Stump  
David Wertz

## Endowment Members

Nien-Chou Chen  
Donald H. Voss

## Join the Azalea Society of America

The Azalea Society welcomes membership by anyone interested in azaleas, from all cultures and disciplines. We invite those who wish to learn, and those who know and wish to share their knowledge.

Member Name

Street Address

City, State, Nine-Digit Zip Code

Area Code and Telephone Number / Private ( )

E-Mail Address / Private ( )

Type of Membership:

- Individual (\$30 U.S., Canada, Mexico / \$40 International)
- Contributing (\$50)
- Supporting (\$100)
- Endowment (\$200)
- Lifetime (\$600 U.S., Canada, Mexico / \$800 International)

Chapter Affiliation:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alabamense (AL)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Rev. John Drayton (SC)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ben Morrison (MD)          | <input type="checkbox"/> Southern California (CA)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Michigan (MI, IL, IN) | <input type="checkbox"/> Texas (TX)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Louisiana (LA)             | <input type="checkbox"/> Tri-State (IN, IL, KY)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Virginia (VA)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Vaseyi (NC, SC, TN)       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oconee (GA)                | <input type="checkbox"/> At-Large (no affiliation) |

Mail membership application form along with your check or money order to:

Dan Krabill  
ASA Treasurer  
6009 Copely Lane  
McLean, VA 22101

Privacy Notice: Membership information is published in the society's membership roster and quarterly journal, *The Azalean*. Information may also be published in a password-protected online Roster available only to society members. If you mark ("X") private on your telephone number and/or e-mail address, it will only be used for official society business and will not be published.

# Membership Renewals Due

Dan Krabill, McLean, VA

It is almost time for most of us to renew our memberships in the Azalea Society of America. Your membership expiration year should appear on the top line of the address label for this issue of *The Azalean*. If the year 2014 appears on that line, your membership expires at the end of this year.

Please review the information on your address label and make any needed corrections. Also, if your telephone number or e-mail address has changed, please provide us with the correct information.

Then, circle an amount in the table below to show the number of years and the type of membership you would like. The table includes a \$1 discount for each year paid in advance, up to \$5 per year. Those years are paid in full, even if the dues increase later. For example, to renew for four years as a Regular Member, circle \$114 in the table. Dues payments above \$30 per year are contributions to the Azalea Society of America and may be tax-deductible, since the ASA is a tax-exempt 501 (C)(3) organization.

Years	Regular	Contributing	Supporting	Endowment
1	\$30	\$50	\$100	\$200
2	\$59	\$99	\$199	\$399
3	\$87	\$147	\$297	\$597
4	\$114	\$194	\$394	\$794
5	\$140	\$240	\$490	\$990
6	\$165	\$285	\$585	\$1185

Or, consider joining for life, for the one-time payment of \$600 or five consecutive annual payments of \$120 each for domestic members, or a one-time payment of \$800 or five consecutive annual payments of \$160 each for overseas members. Sorry, this is not available for organizations.

Finally, write your check or money order in US dollars for the total amount, payable to the "Azalea Society of America." Mail it by December 31 along with a copy of this page to:

Dan Krabill, ASA Treasurer  
6009 Copely Lane  
McLean, VA 22101-2507

Alternatively, you may pay your dues with a credit card online through Paypal (<http://www.paypal.com>). Send your dues payment to: [dkrabill@gmail.com](mailto:dkrabill@gmail.com) (you do not need a PayPal account to do this -- if it asks, please mention [dkrabill@gmail.com](mailto:dkrabill@gmail.com) as the person who referred you). Then describe any address or email address changes, your membership type, and the number of years you are renewing for in the comments section.

If you know you are not going to renew, please let us know by letter or e-mail to [dkrabill@gmail.com](mailto:dkrabill@gmail.com), so we will not have to mail you dues notices.

**Dan Krabill** is ASA Treasurer.

# Bob Stelloh's Lasting Gift to ASA

by Hale Booth, Chattanooga, TN

There is no question that **Bob Stelloh** loved his family, azaleas and the ASA. He found a way to honor all in one incredibly generous act as he left all of us. Shortly after Bob's passing, his wife Audrey contacted the Azalea Research Foundation to inform us that through Bob's will, he had left 1,000 shares of Ford Motor Company stock to fund ASA's Azalea Research Foundation. At the time of his donation, the dividend paying stock shares had a value of approximately \$17,000. Bob directed that this donation was in honor of the Stelloh family. This valuable stock donation has been placed in the ASA Schwab stock account for continuing support of future azalea research projects. We would like to thank **Audrey Stelloh** for her help in expediting this stock transfer.

As has been previously reported in *The Azalean*, Bob Stelloh donated generously of his time to ASA. He served for years as webmaster, building a virtual monument of data and pictures of azaleas to help gardeners study azaleas and thus help ASA with our mission of educating the public about our beloved azaleas. He was tireless (as others are) in answering the public's questions posted online about caring for their azaleas. As many members know, Bob gave freely of his time to the necessary organizational meetings of ASA that are necessary to properly run our organization. He was also a highly valued member of the Azalea Research Foundation and gave his time and skills freely in organizing and charting the course of the research foundation function of ASA. Now his work will continue through the generosity of his lasting gift to ASA's research program.

The Azalea Research Foundation accepts applications for azalea research projects at any time of the year. Research proposals are welcome from individual researchers as well as through organizations. Full information on the research program and the application form can be found on ASA's website by clicking on the link on the upper left-hand side of the home page. Committee members are periodically contacting various horticultural programs at universities to make them aware of the ASA support for important azalea research and to encourage and solicit research proposals.

The majority of the Azalea Research Foundation's funding has come from memorial donations and gifts from the estates of ASA members. This is a meaningful way to honor someone and offers the opportunity to support and carry on their love for azaleas into the future.

The ASA Research Foundation would also like to thank the following donations in memory of Bob Stelloh as of early October:

Ben Morrison Chapter	\$250
Oconee Chapter	\$200
<b>Carole and Dale Flowers</b>	\$100
<b>Hale and Susan Booth</b>	\$50

Our thanks go out to the Stelloh family for sharing Bob with us and for the lasting legacy of his parting gift to carry on the research mission of The Azalea Society.

*Hale Booth is Chairman of the Azalea Research Foundation Committee.*

## In Memory

### Harold Melvin Pellett



Harold Melvin Pellett of Eden Prairie, Minnesota, passed away July 22, 2014 at the age of 76. Harold was a University of Minnesota professor for 30 years, and the leader of the Woody Landscape Plant Breeding Program conducted at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and Horticulture Research Center. Pellett is well known for his introduction of tree and shrub varieties resulting from the breeding program, but is best known for introducing 14 cold-hardy deciduous azalea cultivars. He introduced the Northern Lights azalea in 1978 and expanded the original pinkish-mauve hues to white, lemon yellow, orange, peach and lilac.

In 1990 Harold founded the Landscape Plant Development Center with a mission of developing superior cold-hardy landscape plants. He won dozens of professional awards from state nursery associations, botanic gardens, arboreta, professional organizations, and gardening associations. Harold is survived by Shelby, his wife of 54 years, six children, many grandchildren, a great grandchild, and three siblings.

# Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws

Leslie Nanney, Springfield, Virginia

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At its annual meeting on April 27, 2014, the ASA Board of Directors accepted four proposed amendments to the bylaws. These will be presented to the general membership at the 2015 annual meeting. The Board of Directors recommends approval of these proposed amendments.

## **Background**

The Azalea Research Committee (ARC) was established in 2009 at the annual convention in Northern Virginia. Since then it has grown slowly but steadily, and now contributes significantly to the ASA's mission and its finances. The following amendments will elevate and formalize the committee's position with the Society.

**Motion 1.** Make the Research Committee a permanent committee by adding the name to the list of standing committees in Article VIII.

### *ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES. A. General*

*The activities of the Society are to be carried out principally through the officers and the committees. The Executive, Finance, Nominating, and Research Committees shall be standing committees, which have continuing existence and function, although the Board of Directors may from time to time make changes in their membership and, in conformity with the intent of Sections D., E., F., and G. of this Article, in their manner of acting. The Board shall, in conformity with the By-Laws, establish or authorize the establishment of all other committees, prescribe the scope of their work, the duration of their existence, and the extent of their authority.*

Add a new Section G defining the activities and responsibilities of the Research Committee.

### *ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES.G. Research Committee*

*The Research Committee shall consist of at least five members of the Society but not more than nine members. The Research Committee shall perform the duties enumerated below:*

#### *1. Grants.*

*a. The committee shall solicit, evaluate, and as appropriate approve azalea-related research grants.*

*b. The committee shall monitor and oversee approved grants.*

*c. The committee shall publish the results of grants in The Azalean.*

*2. Donations. The committee shall periodically publish requests for donations in The Azalean and otherwise solicit donations for the Research Fund.*

*3. Investments. The committee shall select and review investments of the Research Fund in accordance with the Investment Policy of the Board, to fund research grants and to grow the Research Fund.*

*4. Reports. The committee shall annually report to the Board its financial results and a numeric summary of its grant-related activities.*

*5. Miscellaneous. The committee shall carry out such other activities relating to the azalea research affairs of the Society as the Board of Directors may from time to time direct.*

Rename the current section G to section H.

**Motion 2.** Add the Research Committee Chair to the Board of Directors.

### *ARTICLE VI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS, B.*

*Following the transition period (Article VI.L.), the Board shall include four (4) elected officers (the President,*

Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer); six (6) elected Directors At Large; the immediate Past President; and the president of each ASA chapter, who while holding such office shall serve ex officio as a member of the Board; in addition, the Editor of The Azalean, the Webmaster and the chairperson of the Research Committee shall each serve ex officio as a member of the Board.

**Motion 3.** Add the Research Committee Chair as a permanent member of the Finance Committee.

**ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES, E. Finance Committee**

*The Finance Committee shall consist of not less than three members of the Society, including the Treasurer and the chairperson of the Research Committee.*

**Background on Investment Policy**

In 2012, the Azalea Research Fund received a donation of Ameriprise stock worth over \$10,000. This raised the issue of how the ARC and the ASA National can invest in stocks. The Investment of Funds section of the by-laws does not list the types of investments that are appropriate and safe for ASA funds. The current wording is:

*Article IX. Section C. Investment of Funds*

*All funds of the Society shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the ASA in such bank, trust company, or other depository or depositories as the Executive Committee may select.*

**Motion 4.** The proposed revision to Section C would clearly state what types of investments the ASA is permitted to make. The intent is to allow the ASA to achieve a good rate of return from its investments without incurring undue risk.

*Article IX. Section C. Investment of Funds*

*All funds of the Society shall be invested from time to time to the credit of the ASA in accordance with the investment policy of the Board after approval by the Executive Committee. Acceptable investments shall include: Federally-insured bank accounts, money market funds, cash accounts such as at brokerage firms and PayPal, debt securities issued by the U.S. government and its agencies, debt securities of corporations rated BAA/BBB by Moody's or Standard & Poor's, preferred stocks, common stocks, and mutual funds and exchange-traded funds consisting of the above instruments. Gifts to the ASA not on the above list of acceptable investments would be sold and the proceeds invested in acceptable investments.*

**Leslie Nanney is Secretary of the Azalea Society of America.**



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(cont. from page 31)

bulbs, daylilies, and grand pink dogwoods in a wooded setting. A number of perennial beds add their blooms in season, including daffodils purchased from Holland and 1-1/2 acres of California poppies. He has been the primary gardener and knows the dirt, soil amendments, plants, and mulch in every inch by heart.

**10:30-11:30**

### **Gayla Mize Garden**

At 10:15 a.m. we will take a short drive to the Gayla Mize Garden, begun in 2010 by SFA Gardens to help Mr. Ray Mize beautify an 8-acre area at the foot of the SFA Recreational Trails and Gardens. Ray convinced the SFA administration that Dr. Creech and his staff could make an overgrown area into a beautiful, open, colorful garden with walking trails, benches, and picnic tables in honor of his late wife, Gayla Mize. She was a wonderful citizen and the promoter of many garden projects around town, including the downtown Plaza Principal and the annual Nacogdoches Azalea Trail.

One of the key garden objectives at the Gayla Mize Garden is to collect as many deciduous azaleas as can grow in our Zone 8b climate. Currently we have 66 species, cultivars, and selections, but are looking for sources for more. Other special collections include the newest varieties of redbud, some large-leaved rhododendrons, and some of Miss Margie Jenkins' old-time favorite like 'Red Slippers', 'Red Ruffles' and its sport 'White Ruffles'.

**11:45-1:15**

### **Lunch at the PNPC and Plant Sale**

We'll drive a short distance into town to have a full Texas barbecue lunch at the IBCEB. We're allotting 1-1/2 hours for a lunch and a short time for plant sale peeking and buying.

**1:30-2:45**

### **The Hagood Garden**

At 1:15, we'll board the buses to go to the Mary Beth and Jim Hagood Garden, located just on the edge of town. We're allowing an hour and a half for garden tours here because of the depth of their native plant collections and mature azaleas.

We'll break into two groups, each with a tour guide. One is SFA Pineywoods Native Plant Center horticulturist Greg Grant, who has helped Mary Beth with plant selection throughout his career. He also helped Mary Beth prepare her extensive plant list (of over 250 different botanically named plants) and will share care and culture tips along the walk. As a published author of five garden books, member of the Southern Garden History Society of America and the Garden Writers of America, and as a true seventh-generation East Texas gardener, he knows what he's talking about. He has degrees in floriculture and horticulture from Texas A&M University. He promises he'll train our other guide to be very knowledgeable about the plants as well.

Mary Beth says she loved plants as a child. When she was older, she was inspired by Bellingrath Gardens near Mobile, Alabama. As a college student, her breaks from studying in the library involved picking

Interested in learning more about 'Koromo Shikibu' azalea? Here is a list of past articles in **The Azalean** that discuss Kurume Azaleas, compiled by **Bill Miller**:

Vol 18, No. 3, Sept. 1996 - *A Few Thoughts on the Kurume Hybrids*, **William C. Miller III**.

Vol 19, No. 3, Sept. 1997 - *Kurume Azaleas --- Personal Reflections*, **Dr. Joe Coleman**.

Vol 25, No. 3, Fall 2003 - *The Palette of Kurume Azaleas: Neglected Treasures*, **Dr. Joe Coleman**.

Vol 28, No. 3, Fall 2006 - *On the Trail of "Stevenson's Collection" of Kurume Azaleas --- An Historical Perspective --- Part I*, **John Hammond**.

Vol 28, No. 4, Winter 2006 - *"Stevenson's Collection" of Kurume Azaleas --- Part II*, **John Hammond**.

Saving the best for last (includes image on that issue's cover):

Vol 14, No. 2, June 1992 - *Some Old Azaleas: Opening Pandora's Box*, **Dr. Ajit Thakur**.  
Scanned copies are available to read on [azaleas.org](http://azaleas.org).

up books on camellias to decide what she wanted to plant someday when she had a yard of her own. Initially, azalea and camellia collections interested her. She wanted the look of natural and flowing plants. When you see the garden, you'll see she succeeded.

When she and her husband bought her current home in 1980, the house had to be in a shady yard, since her preferred plants needed shade to survive. She began the planting process, never dreaming that what would emerge over time would become a passion. When one bed was packed, another was created. Her collections include viburnums, hydrangeas, azaleas and camellias, plants purchased from local nurseries, SFA plant sales, and through catalogs.

As a teacher, Mary Beth would come home to work in her garden to relax. Mary Beth knows the names of all the plants in her yard and has planted them all. It is a work of love that has been growing for over 30 years.

**3:00-4:00**

### **Gloria Durr Garden**

As we board our buses at 2:45, we'll head for an in-town garden for a restful stroll through the Gloria Durr Garden. Both of Gloria's grandmothers loved and grew flowers, and she has inherited that love. In college, Gloria took a mandatory course on landscaping and fell in love with the idea of landscaping her own gardens. She and her husband were both originally from Louisiana where they put in gardens in three of their previous homes. Many of the original plants came from Forest Hills Nursery in Louisiana.



When the Durrs came to Nacogdoches in 1972, they built a house on 1-1/2 lots in a residential area. They did all the landscaping and planting around the house without help, then added two other heavily wooded half-lots. Over the last 20 years, Gloria and her husband cleared out many of the trees. As with most gardeners, their landscaping was planned to solve problems, such as making a city drainage ditch look like a lovely creek-bed. Some of the plants came from Forest Hills, but others came from local Texas growers. The side garden is the result of their careful planning, creating what appears to be a lovely park rather than a private garden. There are several resting spots for just enjoying the meandering view of azaleas and camellias along the shaded side of the property. Gloria feels the garden is still not finished and hopes to continue to add more.

This will end our garden visits, but a bus will take those who want to shop to the plant sale headquarters from 4:00-5:15, and the other will go to the hotel, returning to get shoppers back to the hotel by 5:30. Everyone will be picked up at the hotel at 5:45 for the trip downtown to the evening reception and meetings.

**6:00-9:00**

### **Reception, Banquet, Keynote, Annual Meeting**

All these festivities will be held at historic Mast Hall on Nacogdoches' Main Street, beginning with a reception with cash bar. After a fine dinner, we'll be entertained by Dr. Jared Barnes, lately of North Carolina State but now our newest SFA Associate Professor of Horticulture. He will share not only his favorite plants to pair with rhododendrons, but also his experiences learning about this great genus with friends. We'll close the night with the annual meeting. Afterward, you'll be able to see what the nightlife is like on our brick streets or head back to the hotel on the buses.

### **Contact Info**

*(More listed on the registration form)*

Barbara Stump  
SFA Gardens  
Agriculture Building  
PO Box 13000, Wilson Drive  
Nacogdoches, TX 75962  
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Nacogdoches Azalea Trail Website  
[www.nacogdochesazaleas.com](http://www.nacogdochesazaleas.com)



# Convention Plant Sale

Sherrie Randall, Nacogdoches

The Texas Chapter has been busy planning and organizing the 2015 national convention. Many members are also growing plants for it. Early in 2012, Texas chapter members took cuttings of azalea and hydrangea plants in Stephen F. Austin University's Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden. The azalea cultivars picked are either favorites of **Barbara Stump**, **Dr. David Creech** or **Margie Jenkins**, so plan on being wowed. This selection includes Huangs, Kaempferi, Back Acres, Glenn Dale, Southern Indian, and more. In addition, the evergreen cuttings are double-stuck, so you'll be getting two well-rooted cuttings for the price of one! Some cultivars will be available in two pot sizes to accommodate people who are flying in; so, don't forget a good size carry-on bag. The sale also includes Aromi and austrinum deciduous azaleas grown from liners (thanks, **Maarten van der Giessen** and **J Jackson**). Our chosen companion plant, hydrangea, will also be available in two sizes. There will be a nice mix of lacecaps, mopheads, and one quercifolia--all chapter member favorites.

Overall, this has been quite an eye-opening learning experience. Our lessons learned could be another article in itself!

**Sherrie Randall** is the 2015 convention plant sale co-chairman.

## Convention Schedule Summary

### Thursday, March 26, 2015

Hotel check-in, registration 1:00-5:00pm  
Optional downtown activities  
10:00am-noon; 1:00-4:00pm  
Plant Sale—2:00-7:00  
Board Meeting—2:00-4:00pm  
Dinner on your own  
Bus pickup at hotel—5:45pm  
Reception—6:00-7:00pm  
Welcome & Speakers & SFA Plant Raffle—7:00-9:00pm  
Buses return to hotel—9:15pm

### Friday, March 27, 2015

Breakfast at hotel—6:30-8:45am  
Bus pickup at hotel for tours—8:45am  
Tours—9:00am-4:00pm  
Bus return to hotel—4:15, 5:15pm  
Plant Sale—4:00-7:00pm  
Dinner on your own  
Bus pickup at hotel—5:45pm  
Speakers & Plant Auction—7:00-9:00pm  
Buses return to hotel—9:15pm

### Saturday, March 28, 2015

Breakfast at hotel—6:30-8:45am  
Bus pickup at hotel for tours—8:45am  
Tours—9:00am-4:00pm  
Lunch and Plant Sale—11:45am-1:15pm  
Bus return to hotel—4:15, 5:15pm  
Plant Sale—4:00-6:00pm  
Bus pickup at hotel—5:45pm  
Reception—6:00-7:00pm  
Banquet, Keynote, Annual Meeting—7:00-9:00pm  
Buses return to hotel—9:15pm

### Sunday, March 29, 2015

Hotel checkout  
Board meeting (at hotel)—8:00-10:00am  
Last plant sales—8:00am-noon

# Online ASA Membership Database

*Strictly for non-commercial use*

by Paul Beck, Oak Hill, Virginia

The ASA membership database is now online, in a prototype mode, for evaluation and suggestions from ASA members. This prototype is hosted on the Northern Virginia chapter web site. After review and testing by the ASA membership, it will be moved to a dedicated web site and seamlessly linked into azaleas.org, the ASA web site. To access the prototype database, enter the following address in your browser:

[www.nv-asa.org](http://www.nv-asa.org)

## Registering a Login Account

For membership data security, only ASA members contained in the database will be allowed to view the data. Each member is required to Register on the Northern Virginia chapter web site, using their email address, phone number, and zip code as contained in the database. This is to prevent random persons from accessing the data. The Register button is in the upper left corner of the screen, as shown below.



After clicking on the Register button, you will be presented with the following dialog:

New User Registration	
Email:	<input type="text"/>
First name:	<input type="text"/>
Last name:	<input type="text"/>
Password:	<input type="password"/> 6-12 characters
Confirm:	<input type="password"/> 6-12 characters
Phone:	<input type="text"/> 909-999-9999 Any format, only numbers matter
Zip code:	<input type="text"/> 99999-9999 Format: NNNNN, NNNNN-NNNN, ANA NAN
<input type="button" value="Clear fields"/>	<input type="button" value="Register"/>

Fill in the requested information. The email address, phone number, and zip code are validated against the membership database before you are allowed to log in. Click the Register button. If you get an error and you are sure you put in the correct data, please call 703-860-5676 or email [info@nv-asa.org](mailto:info@nv-asa.org) and we can work through the issue. There may be errors in your data that have not been corrected, or some of the required information may be missing. If everything validates, you will be logged in and a message will appear at the top of the screen, such as shown in the example below:

User Donald Duck (donald.duck@gmail.com) Logged in

## Joint Membership

If your membership with the ASA is a joint membership, both persons may have a separate login account. Having separate login accounts makes it possible for the two members to have different roles on the web site, and thus have different permissions to access and update data areas. In order for this to work, both persons must have registered a separate (different) email address in the database. If the database currently has only one email address registered, one of the two members may register, and then add a second email address to their record so that the second person can then register with that different email address. It is for this reason that you need to enter your first and last name when registering.

## Forgotten Password

If you have forgotten your password, you can re-register with a new password by entering your email address in the login dialog box, and then clicking the "Forgot

Please login	
Email:	<input type="text" value="donald.duck@gmail.com"/> *
Password:	<input type="password" value="*****"/> *
<input type="button" value="Clear fields"/>	<input type="button" value="Login"/> <input type="button" value="Forgot Password?"/>

Your current login account will then be deleted, and you will be directed to the Register dialog shown above. You can then re-create your account by filling out the required information.

### Accessing the ASA Membership

After registering/logging in, a new menu, ASA Members, will appear on the left menu sidebar (see the before and after login menu structure below).



Click on the ASA Members link as shown above with the red arrow. You will then be presented with the membership listing for the chapter to which you belong, or the At Large members if you do not belong to a chapter.

Member directory ©Azalea Society of America  
No commercial use of this data is permitted

Chapter:  Alphabet:

Printer Friendly | 2 members meeting search criteria. | Instructions

Name (Click for details)	Email (Click to compose email)	City	State	Phone
<a href="#">Duck, Daisey</a>	<a href="mailto:daisey.duck@gmail.com">daisey.duck@gmail.com</a>	Duckville	CA	456-555-1212
<a href="#">Duck, Donald</a>	<a href="mailto:donald.duck@gmail.com">donald.duck@gmail.com</a>	Duckville	CA	123-555-1212

### Searching for a Specific Chapter or Names

You have two options to pick from to refine or expand the list of members presented: Chapter and Alphabet. The Chapter selection allows you to restrict the results to the selected chapter, or select 'ALL chapters' if you wish to find members in all ASA chapters. The Alphabet selection restricts the returned results to those members whose last name is in the range of letters selected. After changing the Chapter or Alphabet, you need to click the Find button to see the members which meet your selection criteria.

The numbers of members satisfying your search criteria are listed above the table. Note that there is also a Printer Friendly link so that you may get a hardcopy listing to carry around with you. Each member name

is a hyperlink, which you may click to view the details of their member record. Please note that none of this membership data is visible to web search engines or non-members of the Society.

### Emailing a Member

You may compose an email to any member who has an email in the database and has not restricted access to that email. This is accomplished by clicking their email address as shown above in the member listing. That should bring up your email client in a compose window. You can change what email client is used from the Default Programs item on the Windows Start Menu.

### Updating your Member Data

Note that if you view your own record, an Edit Member Data button appears at the top of the table, as shown below.

Back	Edit member data
Chapter	Duck

This allows the individual member to maintain the accuracy of their own data. In addition, to satisfy privacy concerns, each member may opt-out of publishing any combination of: address, phone, email. Their name will always be visible to all members. By default, all data is displayed. The logged in individual is able to view their entire record and make changes to it to correct any discrepancies. There is a check box before each of the three sections in the detail screen. An example for the address section follows:

Do not publish address |

If you check that box, nobody will be able to view your address (except the web site administrator). There is a separate check box for address, email, and phone number(s).

All changes are logged and displayed at the bottom of the detail page, as shown below. This change history is visible only to the member whose record is displayed.

Member Change History

Date	Field	Old	New	By
2014-10-22 05:36PM	zip	12345	99012	Donald Duck
2014-10-22 05:22PM	login	false	true	

## Conclusion

The addition of an online ASA membership database makes it possible for everyone to see the latest data for any member. In addition, the online database will soon become the only official record of the membership. This database will be used for mailing *The Azalean* to members, sending out renewal notices, and communicating with the membership as necessary. Therefore, it is important that this database reflect the most accurate data. All members are encouraged to keep their records updated whenever changes occur in address, email, phone numbers, etc.

Any and all comments from the membership are welcome. Please direct any suggestions or comments to Paul Beck at 703-860-5676 or by emailing [info@nv-asa.org](mailto:info@nv-asa.org).

*Paul Beck is the webmaster of the Northern Virginia Chapter.*

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ASA 2015 National Convention

## ***Texas Forest Country Azalea Trails and Gardens*** Thursday, March 26 – Sunday, March 29, 2015 Nacogdoches, Texas

Tours of gardens and nurseries in Nacogdoches, Texas including the largest azalea garden in Texas -- the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden on the campus of Stephen F. Austin State University.

#### **Hotel Reservations**

A group rate of \$99 is available for conference attendees at the Holiday Inn Express.

When making reservations, ask for the **Azalea Society of America** group rate.

For reservations call 936-564-0100.

For information about Nacogdoches visit [www.visitnacogdoches.org](http://www.visitnacogdoches.org).

