

President's Letter

J Jackson—Trade, Tennessee

Dear Azalea Friends,

At the convention in Hammond, LA, I will be stepping down as your Azalea Society President. It has been a real honor to serve you during the last four years. The president's task is to conduct the BOD meetings, and I am happy to say there have been several long standing business items that the very dedicated board members have worked through and resolved. My gratitude is deeply felt for everyone who has served on our board.

Thank you Barbara Stump and Pam Fitch for your wonderful work on *The Azalean* and for improving and getting the journal back on track. It is a pleasure to receive and read. I also want to thank all the contributors to *The Azalean* because without your efforts there couldn't be a journal. Our ASA website is currently under reconstruction and I excitedly wait for the unveiling in the near future. Thank you to the website committee for all your work.

The dynamics of our chapters continue to change but membership has remained fairly steady over the last four years, which is a good sign in this digital media based world. To me it means that there are things of value only found in the company of other like-minded people. Thank you to all of our members for being part of our organization.

You will be seeing me around at the conventions and chapter meetings. I will continue to serve the BOD as past president and also as the Vaseyi chapter president. The Azalea Society of America continues to be very important to s Lindy and me. We look forward to seeing and being with you at our events.

*Best regards,
J*



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

Officers for 2015-2017

President — J Jackson

Vice President — Barbara Stump

Secretary — Leslie Nanney

Treasurer — Paul Beck

Immediate Past President — John Migas

Directors

Terms expire 2017 **Terms expire 2018**

Miles Beach

Larry Miller

Bart Brechter

Jo Ann Smith

Joe Coleman

Chris Wetmore

Chapter presidents

serve as ex-officio directors.

Chapters

Ben Morrison

(chartered May 1980)

Budne Reinke, *Pres.*

Northern Virginia

(chartered May 1980)

Barbara Kirkwood, *Pres.*

Louisiana

(chartered June 1981)

Allen Owings, *Pres.*

Tri-State

(chartered Oct. 1981)

Beverly Knight, *Pres.*

Texas

(chartered May 1989)

Harold Hall, *Pres.*

Vaseyi

(chartered June 2001)

J Jackson, *Pres.*

Lake Michigan

(chartered May 2003)

Open, *Pres.*

Alabama

(chartered May 2005)

Patrick Thompson, *Pres.*

Southern California

(chartered March 2007)

Jim Jaeger, *Pres.*

Rev. John Drayton

(chartered May 2010)

Tom Johnson, *Pres.*

Cape Fear

(chartered October 2013)

Open, *Pres.*

Central Carolinas

(chartered October 2013)

Sandy Yakob, *Pres.*

At-Large Contact

Chris Wetmore

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. For information and a membership application, write to Leslie Nanney, Secretary, 8646 Tuttle Road, Springfield, VA 22152 or visit www.azaleas.org.

▼ Native azalea *R. prunifolium* seedling J and Lindy received from Vivian Abney many years ago. The seed probably originated in Providence Canyon, GA.

