

Smith County Master Gardeners with the goal of inspiring visitors to “Innovate, Demonstrate, Educate & Apply” good gardening practices. Following the tour, members will then travel to Blue Moon Gardens in Chandler, Texas, for lunch, a business meeting, and of course, a tour in this garden which specializes in perennials, herbs, natives, hardy roses, and cottage garden flowers.

**New members:** Teressa Bailey, Petty Chapman, David and Ginger Godefroy, and John and Cristy Talbott, Jasper, TX; Jennifer Miranda, Brookeland, TX.

### **New At-Large Members**

**New members:** Janet Carson, Little Rock, AR; Dr. Sukumar Desai, Weston, MA; Jerry Rice, Callahan, FL; Richard Royce, Kennett Square, PA.

## **Yes, You Can Write for *The Azalean***

The *Azalean* needs more good articles about azaleas, their care, and their use in the landscape. Example topics include:

- Seasonal care of azaleas, planting and pruning tips, and pest and disease prevention.
- Articles about new public gardens or special azalea collections being created in your areas.
- Descriptions and photographs of ASA member gardens.
- Current research in azaleas being conducted at local universities, extension service gardens, or junior colleges.
- Information about azalea festivals and sales.
- Historic garden restoration stories.
- Articles about noteworthy azalea hybrid groups or new species or cultivar introductions.

**Format:** Send articles as Microsoft Word document attachments to [theazalean@gmail.com](mailto:theazalean@gmail.com).

**Illustrations:** Color or black-and-white print or digital photographs, or drawings can be used for illustrations. Provide captions and photographer or artist name.

**Deadlines:** Send finished copy and illustrations by the following dates to ensure careful review and production:

Winter 2017 Issue—October 30  
Spring 2018 Issue—December 1  
Summer 2018 Issue—February 1  
Fall 2018 Issue—July 1

## **Call for Gardens' Deciduous Azalea Collections Data**

Patrick Thompson of the Davis Arboretum at Auburn University is doing a survey of public gardens with deciduous azalea collections. Ideal candidates for participation have full time staff dedicated to the long-term maintenance of living collections, or seed banks with sufficient record-keeping to provide information on the source of wild collected and nursery grown plant material.

The goal is to compare lists and source information to perform a gap analysis to determine which types of deciduous azaleas, and even which portions of a native species' range are represented well, and which are rare in US collections. Detailed provenance information is crucial for conservation of wild genetic material, as many of our native azalea populations are lost to development.

So far, the following gardens have provided records for this study:

- Atlanta Botanical Garden
- Auburn's Davis Arboretum
- Bartlett Arboretum
- Connecticut College Arboretum
- Huntsville Botanical Gardens
- Jenkins Arboretum
- Mt. Cuba
- North Carolina Arboretum
- Stephen F. Austin State University Gardens
- US National Arboretum
- US NPGS GRIN Global.

Results of the survey will be published in a future issue of *The Azalean*. If you know of gardens which would like to participate, check to see if they can provide accession numbers, and source information for the plants in their collection. If so, have the garden's plant recorder or curator contact Patrick to get the format in which records must be submitted to be included.

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