

THE A

VOLUME 13 NUMBER 3

SEPTEMBER 1991

Azalea

Journal of the Azalea Society of America



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Post Office Box 34536
West Bethesda, Maryland
20827-0536

President's Letter

L. Malcolm Clark
Southern Pines, NC

The New Orleans convention was magnificent! Carefully planned and wonderfully executed, we have never had better. On a personal note, I have never learned more—plants of the patio garden, vertically laid pebble walks, what a crape myrtle ought to look like, Zone Maps and the Alberta Clipper (what gets hurt here gets hurt there), plant dormancy (more questions than answers), and tons of azaleas and very fine other things I had never seen before. It will be years before I sort out all the input. And the people! This was Southern hospitality at its finest; real warmth, kindness and generosity. Thank you, thank you, thank you one and all. (Can we come again someday?)

For those who did not attend, let me assure you that ASA is not only alive and well in Louisiana, but it is also growing by leaps and bounds in Texas. If pH 9 plus is irrelevant hindrance, the only impediment to ASA's continued growth must be in ourselves. So the unspoken advice from our Deep South friends seems to be: "Lighten up! Let your enthusiasm shine through, for this always draws a crowd." Don't believe for a moment they aren't serious, however. Every professional I met would be at the pinnacle of his field in my part of the world.

Finally a separate note of personal thanks to our past president Bob Hobbs for service to ASA far above any "call of duty." And Bee Hobbs fully as well. Tough shoes to fill! Thanks to you both. □

THE AZALEAN accepts advertising for products and services relating to horticulture as a benefit to the membership. The Editor reserves the right to decide upon the acceptability of any advertisement.

On the Cover: Azaleas at the Hammond Research Station, Hammond, Louisiana. The Research Station is the subject of an article in this issue.

Photographer: William C. Miller III
Bethesda, Maryland

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 the series *Azalea* (subgenus *Anthodendron*) of the genus *Rhododendron* in the Heath family (Ericaceae).

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1991 Convention and Annual Meeting

Robert W. Hobbs

North Beach, Maryland

The 1991 Convention and Annual Meeting of the Azalea Society of America was held March 21-23 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Louisiana Chapter was host for the meeting. Nature cooperated with the chapter as azaleas were in full bloom for the 99 people who attended.

Several excellent talks were presented. The opening speaker was Dr. Severn Doughty whose illustrated talk described the horticultural environment and described plants that would be seen in the area. Friday evening several talks on azaleas were presented: Louisiana Chapter President Robert "Buddy" Lee presented a series of slides on the subject "Austrinum \times Exbury Hybrids". Dr. William L. "Larry" Brown, Associate Professor of Horticulture at the Hammond Research Station of the Louisiana State University, discussed "Breeding for Everblooming Azaleas"; his article based on this talk appears later in this issue. Next, Dr. Richard James Stadtherr, now retired but known for his work with the Carla hybrids, addressed the subject "Making New Azalea Varieties"; an article based on this talk appears in this issue. At the Saturday evening banquet, Naud Burnett II, President of the Dallas Chapter, spoke on "Azaleas at the Dallas Arboretum"; his article on this subject also appears in this issue.

A walking tour of several patio gardens in the French Quarter (*Vieux Carre*) of New Orleans offered attendees the opportunity to see at close hand pleasing examples of gardening in small places, provided a feel for the old New Orleans style houses, and demonstrated good old fashioned hospitality.

Garden tours featured Longue Vue Gardens (described in an article in this issue), Shadowcreek Gardens (described in the December 1990 issue of *THE AZALEAN*), Zemurray Gardens (also described in the December issue), and the gardens of ASA members Wally Warren and Evelyn Rochester. The attendees visited the azalea nursery of member Marjorie Jenkins and observed the azalea breeding projects at the Hammond Research Station. The Hammond Research Station is described in an article in this issue by R. J. Constantine.

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held after the banquet on Saturday evening, March 23. Board of Directors Chairman Don Voss conducted the business meeting. He described the impact of the new by-laws which were adopted



Dr. Richard Stadtherr addresses the Society.

Photograph by William C. Miller III

at the 1990 annual meeting; most notable is the fact that the position of the Chairman of the Board of Directors has been eliminated and the elected president will serve in that capacity. The by-laws now provide for the direct election of officers and a Board made up of these elected officers and six elected Directors. Society Secretary Carol Flowers announced the results of the mail ballot as follows:

L. Malcolm Clark, President; William C. Miller III, Vice President; Carol Flowers, Secretary; and Glenn Taylor, Treasurer. Edward Rothe, Eleanor Stubbs, and Rosalie Nachman were elected to two-year terms as directors.

In this transition election the president and vice president were elected for two-year terms, and the secretary and treasurer were elected for one-year terms.



Robert "Buddy" Lee, President of the Louisiana Chapter, welcomes convention attendees.



Dr. Larry Brown at the Hammond Research Station.



Naud Burnett II, Past President of the Dallas Chapter, speaks following the banquet.

Photographs by William C. Miller III

Longue Vue - A New Orleans Showplace

Photo by Robert W. Hobbs



Participants enjoyed the garden and nursery tours.

Outgoing President Bob Hobbs commented on the progress of the Society with respect to the goals adopted in 1989: A color cover has been achieved for the quarterly journal of the Society, **THE AZALEAN**; however, the Society has not achieved the membership growth which had been planned. A mass mailing to 5,000 prospective members had recently been made in order to achieve some of the hoped-for growth. A plea was made for articles and advertisers for **THE AZALEAN**. Membership applications and advertising orders were distributed.

The food was good, the bus service was courteous, and southern hospitality abounded. Our sincere thanks goes to the members of the Louisiana Chapter for a great job. □

Photograph by William C. Miller III



Society President Malcolm Clark (left) talks azaleas with Art Vance.

Longue Vue is the beautiful eight-acre urban estate that was the home of New Orleans philanthropists Edgar Bloom Stern and Edith Rosenwald Stern. The Greek Revival mansion is built in the classic architectural style of southern Louisiana. The interior of the home was designed in the Georgian manner of the late 18th century for comfortable living and elegant entertaining.

Longue Vue remains as it was when the Sterns lived in it. The house contains its original furnishings of English and American antiques, French and Oriental carpets, needlework, modern art, porcelain and pottery including a collection of creamware from Wedgwood, Leeds, and other British and Continental potteries. The old and the new are gracefully joined, offering something of interest to all who appreciate the decorative arts.

The gardens which surround the house both complement and enhance it. The plan of the estate is one large formal garden with smaller ones. Longue Vue features beautifully manicured lawns with oaks, magnolias, camellias, azaleas, roses, sweet olives, crape myrtles and oleanders as permanent plantings, combined with seasonal displays of tulips, chrysanthemums, poinsettias, pansies and Easter lilies.

The gardens of Longue Vue were originally designed by landscape architect Ellen Biddle Shipman. In the mid 1960's the south lawn was redesigned by William Platt, the architect of the main house and its dependencies, as the Spanish Court.

Echoing the 14th century Generalife Gardens of the Alhambra in Granada, Spain, and Spanish Court is Longue Vue's largest garden. Fountains and mosaic sidewalks contribute to the Moorish-Spanish flavor of this area. Other gardens include the Pan, the Portico and the Walled Gardens which feature roses; the Yellow Garden; the Canal Garden; the Pond Garden; and the Wild Garden, which as its name implies, is an informal planting of native flowering trees and shrubs including several species of wild azaleas. Visitors are greeted by plantings of azaleas along Pine Drive, in the Entrance Court, and surrounding the lawns of the Oak Alley. The Canal Garden, Walled Garden, and Pond Garden also have azalea displays. Container plantings of azaleas are used throughout the gardens. Fresh flowers for the house are grown in the Cutting Garden in the estate's nursery area.

Its tranquility, the diverse and changing vistas of its gardens, and the classic beauty of the home creates in Longue Vue a faultless union of architecture and horticulture. It is an unique memorial to a way of life that no longer exists and is forever a place to look, to learn, and to enjoy.

Longue Vue also features changing exhibits and several permanent displays. It is accredited by the American Association of Museums and has been designated a local landmark by the Historic District Landmarks Commission. Longue Vue is open to the public Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00AM-4:30PM, Sunday, 1:00PM-5:00PM. Closed Mondays and holidays.

For more information you may contact Ms. Betty Bagert, Director of Publicity/Advertising, Longue Vue House and Gardens. □

Hammond Research Station

R. J. Constantin

Hammond, LA

The Louisiana State University Agricultural Center comprises three divisions—the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service, and International Programs. The Hammond Research Station is one of 17 research stations located across the state conducting agricultural research for farmers, growers, nurserymen, and citizens of Louisiana. These 17 units are strategically located throughout the state to serve the particular needs of growers in different areas of the state. Research is also being conducted in 20 departments at the Agricultural Center in Baton Rouge.

This station was initiated in 1922 as the Fruit and Truck Experiment Station. According to Edna Szymoniak (wife of the first superintendent of the station, Boleslaus "Bill" Szymoniak), the station was established at the request of the Hammond Chamber of Commerce. Tangipahoa Parish Police Jury members in wards seven and eight called for an election to provide funding to establish the station. The station is located in Tangipahoa Parish approximately six miles east of Hammond on Highway 1067 (also known as the Old Covington Highway). The station consists of 185 acres, with approximately 100 acres cleared for buildings and research plots. The name was changed to the Southeast Horticultural Experiment Station in 1979, followed by another name change in 1983 to the Hammond Research Station.

The mission of the station has always been to conduct research with horticultural crops. At the station's inception, research concentrated on strawberries and vegetable truck crops. During the 1920-30's, approximately 27,000 acres of strawberries were grown in the Hammond area, but this acreage has since diminished to 1,000. The important vegetable crops grown are bell peppers, cucumbers, cabbages, and watermelons.

During the 1940-60's, this station was heavily involved with camellia research. W. F. Wilson, superintendent from 1936-1975, was a renowned camellia judge and planted an extensive collection of camellias. Research on ornamental crops has occurred over the last 40-50 years at the station. Dr. W. L. Brown joined the staff in 1959 to conduct research on ornamental crops to assist nurserymen in the Folsom area and other parts of the state. In 1975, Dr. Bunnie Wascom became superintendent and proceeded to establish a weed control program on horticultural crops along with a turfgrass program.

Since most of the nurserymen in the Hammond area grow evergreen azaleas as one of their main crop plants, azaleas have long been utilized as a test species at this station. Research with azaleas has included the following:

- (1) Fertilization
 - (a) Formulations
 - (b) Slow release *vs.* regular
 - (c) Placement—surface, incorporated, or dibbled
 - (d) Timing of applications
 - (e) Liquid *vs.* granular

- (2) Containers
 - (a) Size
 - (b) Color
 - (c) Spacing
 - (d) Orientation
- (3) Irrigation
 - (a) Overhead
 - (b) Drip
 - (c) Subsurface
- (4) Pruning
 - (a) Timing
 - (b) Cultivars
- (5) Growth regulators
 - (a) Reduced pruning
 - (b) Flowering
- (6) Media mixes
 - (a) Ingredients
 - (b) Proportions
- (7) Grafting of dwarf types onto Southern Indicas
- (8) Flower forcing
 - (a) Photoperiod
 - (b) Gibberellic acid

In 1980-81, an azalea collection was started at the Hammond Research Station. The first collection was from local growers and consisted of the 50 more commonly grown azalea cultivars being propagated locally in large quantities. These cultivars were established under pine trees along the highway in front of the station. Added to this collection was the "Carla" group of azaleas developed by Dr. R. J. Stadtherr, formerly of the North Carolina State University Department of Horticulture and the Louisiana State University Department of Horticulture. Most of these cultivars bloom in early spring. A second collection of late blooming azaleas, including most of the "Back Acres" group, was planted in 1981-82 near the first collection. This collection also contains seedlings (referred to as everblooming) developed by Dr. Brown that bloom periodically throughout the summer.

Visitors are welcome to visit the station Monday through Friday from 7:30AM to 12:00 noon and from 1:00PM to 4:30PM to view the research being conducted on azaleas and other crops first-hand. Nurserymen, growers, retailers, homeowners, etc. are encouraged to visit the station, especially on annual Field Days or Open Houses when tours are conducted throughout the research plots. Special tours can also be arranged for groups wishing to visit the station. The Hammond Research Station was included in a nursery tour conducted in connection with the 1991 Azalea Society of America Annual Convention held in New Orleans, Louisiana in March.

Approved for publication by the director of the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station as manuscript number 90-68-4426.

The Author is Professor and Resident Director, Hammond Research Station, Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, 5925 Old Covington Highway, Hammond, LA 70403. □

Making New Azalea Varieties

Richard Stadtherr

Baton Rouge, LA

A breeding program should start with a collection of varieties that contain superior and unusual characteristics which a breeder would like to find in selections from crosses he makes. For the Carla hybrids over 300 varieties were collected starting in the spring of 1964. Crosses were made in the greenhouse in the winter of 1964-1965 by Howard Singletary and Dr. Richard Stadtherr. The seed was planted in the spring of 1966 and first flowering occurred in many seedlings in the spring of 1968. Dr. Stadtherr moved to Louisiana State University in October of 1967, and Dr. Fred Cochran and Howard Singletary made the selections at North Carolina State University and continued the project. Rooted cuttings were obtained by Dr. Stadtherr in the spring of 1969 for trials in Louisiana.

About 25 different nurseries located throughout North Carolina and six in Louisiana were given the advanced selections for testing in their areas for hardiness and good characteristics such as adaptability, excellent flowering, disease resistance, plant habit, leaf retention, and uniqueness.

Certainly no bud damage or bark splitting should occur during the winter. A good compact, spreading habit of growth is desirable. The leaves should be attractive and persist even during the winter months. Glossiness is a plus and some have a reddish-purple coloration in the winter. Small leaves tend to add toward compactness. Generally in flowering a big show at one particular time is desired; however, many prefer almost everblooming such as exhibited by 'Fashion' and 'Pink Camellia' this past winter and early spring in Louisiana. Only a few frosts that killed open or opening flower buds prevented flowers for a few days. These varieties tend, however, to give a good show in early spring. 'Baton Rouge' which tends to have sporadic blooming, usually has a bigger blooming in late spring.

The breeder must know the floral parts and their functions. The female carrying part is the pistil, located in the center of the flower, made up of the stigma at the apex, which should be sticky when the pollen is applied, the style and then the rounded ovary, which contains many egg cells, which become the seeds after fertilization. The male or sperm cells come from the pollen in the anther sacs which are at the apex of the stamens. The stamens have long-thread-like stalks called the filaments. Usually there are five to ten or more stamens in a flower but just one pistil.

The breeder carefully removes the petals and anthers (emasculation) from the female parent when the flower is in the "balloon" stage just prior to the unfolding of the petals. Usually just one flower bud is emasculated at a flowering point. A label is made listing the female parent first followed by an 'x' indicating it was crossed with the pollen from the pollen parent's name. Usually reciprocal crosses are made reversing the individual parents' role. Sometimes such is not feasible since in very double flowers, no stamens are found and/or the pistils are lacking or greatly deformed and non-functional. Often by observing a number of flowers on a bush, functional pistils can be found and pollen sacs are located on some petals in the center of the flowers.

Pollen can be collected by cutting off the anthers when the pollen is mature and placing it in small bottles or bags. Allow the pollen to dry for a day or two and then put it in the freezer section of a refrigerator until it is needed for pollination. Usually the dried pollen can be used for a few years and still remain viable.

A small artist's paint brush can be used to place pollen on the receptive stigma of an emasculated flower. This should be done several times on successive days, to assure fertilization has occurred. The brush should be washed in alcohol after applying each different pollen. Allow the brush to dry and continue pollinating.

When the five-parted seed capsules just start to split at the apex, they should be collected and stored. This occurs generally early in the fall. Do not use color of the capsule as a sign of seed maturity for even after they turn a dark purplish brown, the seeds often are immature. A single capsule can contain over 500 seeds.

Seeds which haven't dried can be planted and grown in a greenhouse. Azalea seeds are very small, so sow thinly. If stored dry in a refrigerator, plant the seed, moisten the medium and store the trays at 40 degrees F for about four weeks. Check the trays for any germination which might occur.

Flower bud set occurs from late June and on; however, periods of hot and dry weather can extend this period and even induce flowering.

Many different colors occur among the evergreen azalea flowers; however, no really true yellows are found. Flower types include the sin-

gles, hose-in-hose, semi-doubles and full doubles. Flower size can vary from less than an inch to almost five inches across. Petals can be ruffled or crinkled. 'Sherwood Red' has very small flowers while 'Adelaide Pope' and 'Ruffled Giant' have large ruffled flowers. 'Hexe' and 'Baton Rouge' have hose-in-hose flowers. 'Rose-down' and 'Carla' have semi-double flowers. Fully double flowers are found on 'Delos', 'Dixie Rose' and 'Pink Camellia'. White variegation can be seen in 'Gloria', 'Picotee', or in a Williams hose-in-hose selection called 'Easter Bonnet' with a white blotch on the standard and wings with light green markings. Fragrance can be found in the split-petal 'Koromo Shikibu', 'Obtusum' and 'Gulf Pride'.

Varieties which were named and introduced at North Carolina State University include 'Carror', 'Sunglow', 'Emily', 'Elaine', 'Jane Spalding', 'Adelaide Pope', 'Pink Cloud', 'Pink Camellia', 'Autumn Sun', 'Cochran's Lavender', 'Wolfpack Red', 'Rachel', 'Jan Cochran' and 'Dr. Fred Cochran', which has some resistance to the phytophthora root rot. 'Dixie Rose' and its variegated leaf mutation 'Dixie Rhythm', 'Carla', 'Ione Burden' and 'Rosedown' were named at Louisiana State University. Four selections will be named this year. They include

'Oakley', 'Ollie Steele', 'Steele Burden' and 'Windrush'. 'Baton Rouge' and 'Ione Burden' were introductions out of crosses made at Louisiana State University.

'Red Wing' was used as the male or female parent in many crosses which were made; however not a single seed was obtained. Many successful crosses were obtained using 'Anytime', 'Delos', 'Hahn's Red', 'Massasoit', 'Morning Glow', 'Ruby', 'Ruby Red', 'Ruffled Giant', 'Sherwood Red', and 'Stewartstonia'.

More recently crosses made between 'Baton Rouge' and 'Dixie Rose' resulted in a number of excellent selections with large hose-in-hose and single flowers varying from pure white to orange-red or purplish red on a spreading compact, mound-like habit of growth.

'Nancy Marie' is a mutation that occurred on the variety 'Dogwood' which is unique in having a colorful reddish star in the white flower. This opens up many possibilities for many new varieties.

Dr. Stadtherr is retired from the Horticulture Department of the Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA. He continues his research at the Burden Research Plantation. □

Proposed Amendments to By-laws

The Board of Directors has approved the following resolution regarding a change to the Society by-laws:

Whereas, **THE AZALEAN** is central to serving the needs of the membership and to furthering other educational and informational objectives of the Society, be it:

Resolved, that the Editor of **THE AZALEAN** be included as a member of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Committee; specifically, that the text of the By-Laws (May 1990) be amended as follows:

Article VI. Board of Directors.

B. Composition.

At the end of the first sentence (which defines the composition of the Board), the period is changed to a semicolon and the words "in addition, the Editor of **THE AZALEAN** shall serve *ex officio* as a member of the Board." are added.

Article VIII. Committees.

D. Executive Committee.

In the first sentence (which defines the composition of the Executive Committee), the words "and Treasurer" are changed to "Treasurer, and Editor of **THE AZALEAN**".

Resolved, that the aforesaid amendments to the By-Laws be presented to the membership for action at the next annual membership meeting. In conformance with the By-Laws, notice of intention to amend shall be accomplished by publication of this resolution in **THE AZALEAN**. □

Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Society

Naud Burnett II
Dallas, Texas

The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Society (DABS) consisting of 65 acres, was formerly two residential estates with mature gardens and specimen trees overlooking a large city park and lake approximately 500 feet away. A master plan for developing the arboretum from this beautiful property was prepared by Jones and Jones Landscape Architects, Seattle. Our firm was asked to prepare more detailed studies for an open, gently sloping (12 feet over six-one-half acres) lawn area surrounded by mature trees. A natural drainage occurred through a wooded area on the side opposite the lake. The area was identified as the Rainbow Color Garden.

Great effort was made at this preliminary study stage to determine the proposed plants that might be used, since it was to be the primary color garden at DABS. The plantings were to consist of collections of plants as well, since one of the primary purposes of the garden was education. After the preliminary studies had been accepted with minor modifications, we were asked to prepare preliminary estimate of probable cost to be sure we would be within a budget.

It was at this stage that we chose azaleas as the unifying plant to completely encircle the garden. We told DABS that with the many possible azalea varieties, it would be possible to have a three-month blooming period. Prior to this garden being installed, there were probably no more than 30 varieties of azaleas used in all of Dallas. When we told DABS that we wanted to use at least 2,000 varieties, many committee members expressed concern as to whether they would survive in our harsh climate. During this period, I visited Don Hager and Tom Dodd, and hired Fred Galle to consult with us on the azalea varieties and the bed preparation. We thought it would be best to group the various hybrid groups together, but Fred advised us to mix up the groups so the blooming periods would be dispersed through the garden to keep people moving to see what was next. We did group the beds by colors so that we eliminated color clashes as much as possible.

Prior to the conception of the azalea garden, it was the custom in Dallas to plant azaleas in excavated holes or beds that were backfilled with 15" of wet peat moss. No one seemed to know why they did this except "they had wet feet" nor did we know there was an Azalea Society to advise us. After consulting with Fred Galle, Tom Dodd and Dr. Phillip Colbaugh (Texas A&M University), there was a consensus that the beds should be raised above existing grade and the planting media should be 60% pine bark (old or new of a size 1/4" and finer), 40% coarse or chunky grade peat moss and trace elements (1-1/2 lb. Micromax per cu. yd.). It was delivered thoroughly mixed and prewet (40-50% moisture).

Due to the calcarious soil and high pH of Dallas water (pH 8.5-9), a fertilizer injector and a sulfuric acid injector were installed to save on maintenance costs so that all the plants except grass would receive optimum fertility and pH each time they were watered with the automated sprinkler system. It is also possible to use the injectors to apply insecticides and fungicides.

We were asked to purchase plants from many hybrid groups and make a trial bed of 250 varieties to prove to the skeptics that the plants would survive in Dallas in the new bed preparation media we had concocted. Little did we realize that because of various political reasons, the garden would be delayed several years and the trial beds of azaleas would survive through 80-mile-an-hour

winds, 105 degree F heat and extreme winters. It proved that DABS would not be sticking their necks out on these many unproven varieties in Dallas. We were asked to be on the safe side and use primarily the 30 or so varieties that had been used in the past in Dallas in the most prominent beds so if there was a failure it wouldn't be a glaring problem. These were: 'Hinodegiri', 'Hino Crimson', 'Coral Bells', 'Pink Pearl', 'Snow', 'H. H. Hume', 'Orange Cup', 'Bridesmaid', 'Hampton Beauty', 'Salmon Beauty', 'Sherwood Red', 'Fashion', 'Wakaebisu', and 'Gumpo'.

In the final design, the garden covered six and one-half acres and was surrounded by 2,000 varieties of azaleas to give continuity of a plant group with months of bloom and to be evergreen as well. Within the overall garden there were four garden areas with different uses. One was a color garden with four or five seasonal changeouts of color, next a garden that changed color twice a year, next one that was primarily perennials with accent points of seasonal color added twice a year and a Fern Dell in the wooded drainage area. Ponds were constructed at the top and bottom of the Fern Dell and a babbling brook with native limestone boulders lining the creek and ponds.

Within the azalea beds and fern dell there are collections of all varieties possible of crape myrtle trees, redbud, dogwood, hardy fern and ajuga with hundreds of species of other shade and sun loving plants. The raised beds of azaleas have had the sloping sides of bark and peat planted in Louisiana Blue Phlox, *Phlox subulata*, *Ophiopogon japonica nana*, *Liriope 'Majestic'* and *Saxifraga stolonifera* in order to keep the sides from washing and discourage squirrels from hiding pecans and acorns. We have found that rabbits love the phlox.

During the design phase we had to give a number of presentations to two families and their children. Each family donated a million dollars for its construction and maintenance. The garden was actually built with

matching funds (\$3,000,000) from the City of Dallas. We were blessed with an excellent contractor who was also the low bidder.

During a final stage of completion of the drawings and specifications, we convinced DABS to allow us to negotiate with growers to set aside the thousands of azaleas to be used since when delivered these would be a year larger than what would be normally available. Exact numbers of varieties had to be matched with grower availabilities and set aside; and in some cases prepayments were made for these plants.

The property of DABS consisted of two parcels of land; one owned by DABS and one owned by the City of Dallas Parks Department. Negotiations to join the property into one owned by the City and operated by DABS became lengthy. Some neighbor groups felt they hadn't been consulted during the master planning process, and they wanted it just like it had been before DABS. After lengthy meetings and the development of a new master plan with citizen participation, two years had passed.

The poor azalea growers had plants coming out of their ears that had to be shifted to larger containers, spaced out, trimmed and even provide new growing land with sprinkler systems. All the while these plants were becoming more costly and so beautiful that customers wanted to know why they couldn't have some of those large plants "like over there"! The kind and noble growers caught in this predicament were Tom Dodd Nurseries, Semmes, Alabama; Dogwood Hill Nursery, Franklinton, Louisiana, and Jenkins Farm and

Nursery, Amite, Louisiana. We shall forever be indebted to them for their patience and understanding. I doubt if anyone could talk them into doing this again.

Many of the plants became specimens — six feet tall and four feet across, and many were three feet x three feet. Small plants can normally be stacked six or eight plants high in trucks, but these plants were so large that they could not be stacked. To make things more difficult for the grower, we specified that each plant must have two aluminum labels - one at ground level and one at the top of branches. With the hundreds of varieties, the landscape contractor would request certain varieties on each truck so that areas could be completed one at a time. These were stressful times for the growers.

John and Evelyn Rochester of Dogwood Hill Nursery supplied the majority of the unusual varieties. They allowed us to purchase stock plants (already large) of two groups of Huang's, Robin Hill, Linwood, Girard, all Brookside Satsuki, Harris, and National Arboretum Kurume (newest) introductions.

Margie Jenkins supplied many Robin Hill and unusual varieties she had collected and had grown for sale. She was a joy to work with and such a plant lover!

Don Hager and Bob Stewart in Virginia supplied many of the smaller plants that would not have been available without their special growing effort.

Tom Dodd, Jr. and Harold Dodd worked with us on the 40 varieties that they normally grow and we used these in greater numbers.

Several breeders have allowed us to try their hybrids that have not been named or distributed. To those of you who have hybrids and would like trials, we would welcome you to contact us. We will report to you on their success, time of bloom and assure you that no one would mail cuttings until you gave us permission us to do so. (We would like to know if you name it.)

This garden has become the big hit of the Arboretum. Much of its success is due to the three months of spring bloom as well as over a month of bloom in the fall. We have had over 300 varieties rebloom in late October and November. The Robin Hill hybrids, 'Sekidera', 'Opal', 'Abbot', and Harris hybrids, 'Fashion', 'Wa-kaebisu', and many Brookside Satsuki hybrids are the predominant rebloomers.

If you come to Dallas in March, April, May or late October and November, we can show you an excellent display of azaleas in the Margaret Elizabeth Jonsson Color Garden and Palmer Fern Dell. Perhaps Dallas can host the national meeting in a few years. We welcome you and promise a personal tour if you give me enough notice.

Naud Burnett II, Landscape Architect is a native Texan and a graduate of Texas A&M University. He has been in practice of landscape architecture for 43 years. His designs have been in most major magazines and has received 22 awards for excellence. Projects have been in 15 states, Mexico, Bahamas and Europe. He has worked with 20 of Forbes richest Americans and is currently working on a 25 acre estate with six acres in azaleas of 750 varieties. □

Breeding for Everblooming Azaleas

William L. Brown

Hammond, LA

Although I accepted the assignment to talk on this general subject, I must quarrel with the exact words of this title. First, what I do is take stamens from the flowers of one particular azalea species and use them to place pollen on the stigma of almost every other azalea that happens to be blooming at the time. If that constitutes breeding, then I suppose I'm an azalea breeder. But it seems to be much too high-sounding a name for the simple operation that I perform.

Second, "everblooming" may not most accurately describe the goal that I have in mind. Actually, selections resulting from at least two of the crosses I have made could be described as everblooming without too much stretching of the truth. But most crosses have resulted in seedlings that are more accurately described as "off-season bloomers" or "repeat bloomers."

The basis for my efforts is the species *Rhododendron oldhamii* Maximowicz, a native of Formosa, which has the interesting habit of producing flowers throughout the growing season and into the fall. I have been told that some *R. oldhamii* strains do not have this tendency, but the two distinct types that I have had both produce off-season flowers. These two seem to differ only in leaf shape, one being distinctly rounded and the other distinctly pointed.

R. oldhamii flowers are 1.5-2.0" wide and are a moderately bright orange or orange-red with a slightly purplish blotch. The plant has an open habit of growth and is considered cold hardy only through zone 8.

When I first decided to make crosses using *R. oldhamii* as one of the parents, the only other azaleas in flower were tender pot-plant cultivars. My first cross was with 'Chimes' and produced only two surviving seedlings. One of these was a distinct orange-red and the other rose-pink. Flowers of both were decidedly larger and brighter colored than *R. oldhamii*, but both were found to be severely damaged by cold in the 10-15 degree F range some years. These seedlings qualify for the term everblooming.

My second cross was with 'Ambrosiana', also a tender Belgian Indian hybrid. The four seedlings produced from this cross had flowers in a narrow range of color, from rose-pink to rose-red. These seedlings were also severely damaged by cold, but their everblooming tendency is so strong that one, designated A01, has been selected for release as 'Southern Summer Rose'.

The next year, I finally had available for pollination a hardy azalea, 'Red Robin', a Kurume hybrid with compact growth and very bright orange-red flowers. The many seedlings from this cross proved to be completely cold hardy here, but their flowering habits ranged from almost entirely spring-flowering to moderately off-season flowering. I would define "moderately off-season" as being in the same category with 'Fashion' in that regard.

Results with these three and later crosses have led me to the theory (or fear) that the everblooming tendency may be closely linked with lack of cold hardiness. I hope to disprove that theory in time!

In reviewing slides of A01 ('Ambrosiana' \times *R. oldhamii*) in which plants grown in gallon pots were almost covered with flowers, I am reminded to point out that steady flowering of azaleas that can be considered everblooming is de-

pendent on steady growth being maintained. Since they flower on currently produced growth, continuous growth (and flower bud initiation) is necessary for flowering throughout the growing season. This growth often continues through November or later here, so they are "ripe" for freezing when a cold front suddenly arrives.

'Carla' \times *R. oldhamii* resulted in some interesting seedlings, several with the doubleness of 'Carla' and all with good colors. One has the open habit of growth of *R. oldhamii*. But having both parents with only marginal hardiness, these seedlings have been damaged considerably by cold.

Crosses made in 1988 were with 'Amagasa', 'Malaguena', 'Opal', and 'Sandra Ann'. These seedlings began flowering in August 1989. Most of the 45 'Malaguena' seedlings have single, orange, medium-sized flowers, but some are hose-in-hose or semi-double. 'Opal' seedlings range from purplish-pink to orange and vary considerably in form and size. 'Sandra Ann' seedlings range from bright orange to purple and vary in size, but all are single. 'Amagasa' seedlings all have flowers with variations of orange and orange-pink, and most have a purplish blotch. Flower width ranges from two to three inches.

All four of the above crosses produced seedlings ranging in habit of growth from very open to fairly compact. As a group, they produced a lot of off-season flowers last year, but at least two more seasons will be needed to see if any have a combination of qualities to make them worthy of introduction.

Crosses made with *R. oldhamii* in 1989 include 'Dixie Rose', 'Carror', 'Sunglow', 'Watchet', 'Caroline Dorman', 'Dorothy Clark', 'Fascination', 'Slim Jim', 'Hot Shot', 'Pleasant White', 'Pink Cascade', 'Ginga 1101', 'Rainfire', *R. nakaharae* and *R. eriocarpum*. Attempts to produce seed pods on 'Fashion' and several other cultivars have failed.

Evaluation of seedlings from all of the above crosses is just beginning.

Little is known of their off-season flowering tendency and nothing is known of their cold hardiness.

Azaleas that you expect to be off-season bloomers should have shade during their flowering time, just as normally late-flowering cultivars should have. That is certainly true here near the Gulf Coast, and I would expect it to be true even up north. Those that were planted in full sun do not have anything close to the flower quality or longevity that they had while growing in the shade.

Getting back to the question of whether this work deserves the high-sounding term "breeding", perhaps one deserves the title of breeder when he is cold-hearted enough to throw out the 99% or more of his seedlings that should be discarded. I'm sure I fall short on that score, even though azaleas, unlike laboratory rats, have no feelings.

Approved for publication by the director of the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station as manuscript number 91-68-5201.

Dr. Larry Brown is Associate Professor of Horticulture, Hammond Research Station, Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, 5925 Old Covington Highway, Hammond, LA 70403.

□

Addendum to Azalea Book List

The book "The Brocade Pillow" by Ito Ihei, translated by Kaname Kato with an introduction by John L. Creech and published by John Wetherhill, Inc. in 1984 was inadvertently omitted from the "Azalea Book List" published in **THE AZALEAN**, June 1991, p. 31. In the interest of completeness, please advise the editor of any other omissions or additions. A revised book list will be published periodically. □

Azalea Society of America Management Calendar

At the March 21, 1991 meeting the Board of Directors approved the following calendar to guide the management of the Society. In particular the deadlines for **THE AZALEAN** are called to the attention of authors of articles, advertisers, and other contributors to the journal. Chapter officers should also note the schedule for receiving dues and for issuing dues reminder notices.

January	Executive Committee meeting
January 15	Disburse chapter share of dues to chapters; send dues renewal reminders; provide chapters with directory information for non-renewals
February 1	Deadline for March issue of THE AZALEAN (including financial statement, advertisements, and articles)
March	Executive Committee meeting to prepare for Board of Directors meeting
March 1	Finalize mailing list for March issue of THE AZALEAN (this means that if dues have not been paid by this date a copy will not be mailed).
March 10	March issue of THE AZALEAN mailed (including ballot for election of officers and directors).
May 1	Deadline for June issue of THE AZALEAN (to include ballot for Best Article in THE AZALEAN)
May	Board of Directors meeting and Annual Membership meeting
June 15	June issue of THE AZALEAN mailed
July/August	Executive Committee meeting
August 1	Deadline for September issue of THE AZALEAN (Convention Issue)
August 30	Prepare and print Roster
September	Executive Committee meeting
September 10	September issue of THE AZALEAN mailed with Roster inserted
October	Board of Directors meeting; budget for next year
November 1	Deadline for December issue of THE AZALEAN (including proposed slate for next year's election and annual index of articles)
December 10	December issue of THE AZALEAN mailed (including registration material for Convention and Annual Meeting)

Ben Morrison Chapter Bob Benbow, *President*

The Ben Morrison Chapter's azalea show was held at London Town Pub-
lic House and Gardens in Edgewater,
Maryland the weekend of May 11-12,
1991. We had a beautiful day and a
lot of people were out to enjoy the
gardens along with our show. A *spe-
cial thanks* goes out to **Mr. Mark
Van Lunen of Tilden Lawn Nursery**
on Route 214 and **Mr. Frank White of
White's Azalea Farm in Lanham** for
donations of azalea plants for the
plant sales.

There were discussions on plans
for the 1992 Annual Meeting and
Convention to be held at Solomons,
Maryland, May 14-17.

The chapter's annual cutting picnic
was held July 21 at the home of Sue
and George Switzer. Although mem-
bers enjoyed the potluck lunch and
all the azalea talk, extremely dry and
hot weather conditions prohibited the
taking of cuttings except from plants
kept watered by the Switzers. The
Curator of the Azalea Collection at
the National Arboretum Ms. Barbara
Bullock, also attended. □

Brookside Gardens Chapter Bill Johnson, *President*

The April 28 meeting was held at
the beautiful Hillwood Museum Gar-
dens. Denise Stelloh gave instructions
on preparing trusses for the flower
show...smash the end of the stalk
with a hammer and let sit in tepid
water to soak; this will prevent the
flowers from wilting so badly.

A short, but most interesting talk
was given by Rebecca Zastrow of
Brookside Gardens on the nomencla-
ture of plant names and the history of
where and how this practice evolved
into the science it is today. Rebecca
has a degree in ornamental horticul-
ture from the University of Maryland
and interned at the Scott Arboretum
at Swarthmore University in Pennsyl-
vania.

After the meeting the attendees
went on a tour of the grounds which

were at peak bloom. The Japanese
gardens also lived up to all we had
heard about them and with our Presi-
dent, Bill Johnson, being an able and
knowledgeable guide an enjoyable
day was had by everyone in atten-
dance.

The June 3 meeting was held at the
Davis Library. Because of a schedul-
ing conflict at the library, future
meetings will be held Tuesdays rath-
er than Mondays. The speaker, Bar-
bara Bullock, Curator of the Azalea
Collection at the National Arbore-
tum, gave a good talk and slide show
of the work being done to the collec-
tion. Her slides indicated how much
progress she and her "volunteers"
have accomplished with a very small
budget. Mount Hamilton is begin-
ning to look much like it was de-
signed to, but there is still major
work to be done. She also mentioned
there were about 250 *Indicum*/
*Mucronulatum*s she would like to
distribute for evaluation. It was sug-
gested that letting FONA know from
time to time that the azalea collection
was important to the Society and visi-
tors at the Arboretum could possibly
help with finances for maintenance.

The subject of the memorial for
George W. Harding was discussed.
Bob Stelloh told the members that the
National Society Executive Commit-
tee had been studying the possibility
of a memorial garden to be put in at
the Headquarters of the American
Horticulture Center, at River Farm,
near Mount Vernon, VA. The mem-
bers present were anxious to hear
more about the plans for the memori-
al.

On July 13, 1991 a cutting picnic
and potluck dinner was held at the
home of Bob and Denise Stelloh. □

Dallas Chapter Steve Brainerd, *President*

The Dallas Chapter has completed
the first annual spring evaluation of
the Dallas Arboretum's 2,000+ azalea
cultivars. Over the next few years,
the goal is to document the best per-

forming varieties for North Central
Texas.

Guest speakers for the spring
meetings were Mark Wegmann, Presi-
dent of the Dallas Chapter of the
Bonsai Society, who introduced
many of us to the art of azalea bonsai;
and Alan Batjer of Eastman Kodak
whose presentation, "Accurately Re-
producing Azalea Flower Color in
Photographic Slides and Prints,"
drew record attendance. Pete Vines
has tentatively accepted an invitation
to speak at our fall meeting, where
we will tap his knowledge of the
Huang azaleas, Holly Springs culti-
var introductions, and fall blooming
azalea varieties. □

New Members - Chapter Assign- ment Procedure

When a request for membership is
received, the new member will be
posted as an at-large member unless
the application is accompanied by a
request to affiliate with a specific
chapter. Applications from new
members actively recruited by the
chapters should indicate that a chap-
ter affiliation is intended as has been
done in the past. Since the names of
all new members are published in
THE AZALEAN, chapters may wish
to invite at-large members to consid-
er chapter affiliation. □

A "New" Chapter

...Well, not yet, but we're still try-
ing to form a new local chapter in
Georgia. To be more specific, we're
just east of Atlanta and focusing on
Gwinnett, Rockdale, Newton, and
adjoining counties for active mem-
bers.

We also want to invite members
at-large in Georgia to sign up with us
for 1992 membership. We hope to be
up and running by then as a fully ac-
tive chapter. Right now we have
about 20 potential members, but we
want more. We could really use your
help!

Speaking of help, I want to thank
Bill Miller for his advice and counsel.

He has been a great help in getting me over some of the more technical aspects of forming a chapter. Thanks again, Bill!

If you need any further information, please call or write:

Jim Thornton
884 June Drive
Conyers, GA 30207
PHONE: (404) 483-1593 □

Azalea Shows in the Washington, D.C. Area

Two chapters in the Washington, D.C. area organized azalea shows in the spring of 1991.

The Brookside Gardens Chapter's 12th annual Azalea Show was staged as part of the Landon School Azalea Festival on May 3-5. The show included a judged exhibit of over 200 azalea trusses by 18 exhibitors, three invited floral displays by Gi Adams, Ginnie Lentz, and Frank Sharpnak, and a 25-foot diameter display garden designed by Ralph D'Amato and executed by a number of chapter members. The show gave many visitors a wealth of information about the wide variety of azaleas available in the local area, along with examples of using azaleas in the home landscape.

The display garden, created overnight from plants and other materials loaned for the occasion by members, local nurseries and landscapers, covered a variety of garden settings. These ranged from a semiformal sunny area (planted with perennials and evergreen azaleas, and featuring a pond and a garden sculpture) to an informal area of species azaleas, oaks, dogwoods and other understory trees. The latter featured a large *Rhododendron periclymenoides* (from the Stelloh garden) which the chapter later donated to Landon School. The benches around the garden were filled by visitors enjoying its beauty and tranquility, with comments like "enchanted," "this is marvelous," "I had no idea there were so many different azaleas," and "how can I get something like this in my backyard?"

The Ben Morrison Chapter organized a show at London Town Publik

House and Gardens in Edgewater, Maryland on May 11-12. This show was not a judged show. Several educational exhibits were featured, including an azalea propagation display by George Switzer and a companion plant display by Margaret Church. Many visitors at the Ben Morrison Show took the opportunity to tour the London Town Publik Gardens and House which has been toured by ASA members in previous conventions. □

Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors met on March 21, 1991 in New Orleans. Glenn Taylor reported that the Northern Virginia Chapter decided to contribute money left over from the 1990 convention to the National Azalea Society accounts. It was decided that this money will go into the General Endowment Fund. A thank you letter will be sent to the Northern Virginia Chapter for this contribution.

As reported by Bill Miller, co-chairman of the Membership Committee, the mass mailing resulted in a gain of over 40 new members as of March 16. Don Voss reported that the Society has a total of 731 members. The new dues collection procedure is going well. Bill Miller requested that the chapter tell their members about the Society's change of address.

Editor Bob Hobbs reported that he had enough articles for the June issue of **THE AZALEAN** and with the expected articles from the convention would have enough for September. However, he would like to see a good backlog of articles. Presently, there is no backlog.

A policy for advertising in **THE AZALEAN** has been developed and will be printed in each issue of **THE AZALEAN**.

A mechanism for counting the ballots for the election of officers and directors will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Mal Clark talked to Betty Hager about the possible dissolution of the

Flame Azalea Chapter. Nothing has been resolved. Mal Clark will write or call individual members about its future and report to the board at the next meeting.

A management calendar for the society was approved. It will be published in an issue of **THE AZALEAN**, along with information on deadlines and procedures for submitting articles.

It was decided that appointment of chairpersons for the Nominating Committee and Awards Committee will be deferred to the Executive Committee.

The Board authorized to have envelopes printed for mailing **THE AZALEAN**.

The subject of future convention sites was discussed. The 1994 convention will be a joint one with the ARS in Asheville, North Carolina. The site of the 1993 convention has not been established.

Bob Stelloh presented a memo on the topic of a possible azalea garden at the American Horticultural Society's River Farm near Mt. Vernon, VA, as a possible memorial to George Harding. He will continue to develop the concept and report on progress at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Bill Miller reported that he has revised the welcome package, which among other things will list the back issues of **THE AZALEAN** and information on future conventions. Bill Miller requested suggestions as to what advice, if any, should be given to new members on growing of azaleas. The suggestion was made that the chapters were better equipped to handle these questions. The idea of a buddy system or pen-pal system where experienced azalea growers were matched with members requesting help was addressed. Mal Clark will write an information letter on the growing of azaleas and Bill Miller will make it part of the welcome package. The chapters will be asked if their members are interested in a pen-pal or buddy system.

Two possible by-laws changes were discussed:

- (1) *Minimum number of members to start a chapter.* Much discussion was held on this topic. It will be further discussed;
- Δ) *Editor of THE AZALEAN to be on the Board of Directors.* The Board decided that the Editor of THE AZALEAN should be a member of the Board of Directors and the proposed by-laws change will be published in the September issue of THE AZALEAN. □

Society Recognized in Newsletter

The Life Savings Bank of Norfolk, Virginia publishes a newsletter "Outlook". Its issue this spring featured azaleas and the Annual Tidewater Azalea Festival which was held April 18-21. The article provides brief information on azaleas, hybrid groups and cultural tips for growers in Tidewater Virginia. The Azalea Society of America was prominently mentioned in this article. □

Results of Spring 1991 Mass Mailing

In the spring of 1991, the Society obtained a mailing list from the American Rhododendron Society consisting of about 5,000 names.

The Azalea Society new membership brochure and application, which had been redesigned for mailing by Bill Miller, was sent to this list of names by bulk mail. As a result of this activity, over 100 new members have been added to our roster. Thanks to everyone who participated in the mass mailing exercise. □

In Memory

We will sorely miss Nancy Duncan Batson, a member of the Brookside Chapter of the Azalea Society of America since 1982, who recently passed away. □

1992 Annual Meeting and Convention

The 1992 Convention and Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Ben

Azalea Calendar

1991

September 14	Glenn Dale Project Work Day, 9:00AM-1:00PM. For more information call Bill Miller at (301) 365-0692.
September 15	Brookside Gardens Chapter plant auction to be held at the U.S. National Arboretum at 1:00PM.
October 19	Glenn Dale Project Work Day, 9:00AM-1:00PM. For more information call Bill Miller at (301) 365-0692.
November 1	Deadline for receiving material (articles, advertisements, and chapter news) for December issue of THE AZALEAN
November 16	Glenn Dale Project Work Day, 9:00AM-1:00PM. For more information call Bill Miller at (301) 365-0692.

1992

February 1	Deadline for receiving material (articles, advertisements, and chapter news) for March issue of THE AZALEAN
May 1-3	Landon School Azalea Festival and the Brookside Gardens Show
May 13	Fred Galle to talk at the U. S. National Arboretum, Washington, D.C.
May 14-17	ASA Convention and Annual Meeting at Solomons Island, Maryland, sponsored by the Ben Morrison Chapter

Morrison Chapter at Solomons, Maryland. The Convention Headquarters will be at the Holiday Inn Hotel Conference Center and Marina on the northern end of Solomons Island about 50 miles southeast of Washington, D.C. and equidistant south of Annapolis, Maryland. Solomons Island is located at the confluence of the Patuxent River and the Chesapeake Bay. The area has a large variety of horticultural, geological, and historical sites including Calvert Cliffs where 15-million-year-old fossils can be found.

The area has a rural flavor and the proximity to the water is very pleasant. The convention will include, as usual, tours of local azalea gardens and nurseries, tours of local historical sites, guest speakers and hopefully a

roundtable discussion on a subject of interest to all attendees.

Although the convention will have a leisurely pace, attendees may wish to come early or stay late to enjoy historical Southern Maryland. □

Nominations for Officers and Directors for 1992

Robert Stelloh, Acting Chairman of the Nominating Committee, will be preparing a slate of candidates for officers and directors to be elected in 1992 as follows: **Secretary, Treasurer and three directors.** Suggestions for nominees will be accepted until December 31, 1991. Please send nominations to:

Mr. Robert Stelloh
15241 Springfield Road
Darnestown, MD 20874. □

The Ames-Haskell Azalea Collection at the National Gallery of Art

Dianne Gregg has sent to the editor a brochure describing a collection of azaleas at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. The brochure reads as follows:

"The collection of azaleas on display is part of the renowned Ames-Haskell Azalea Collection, which has been donated to the National Gallery of Art. Many plants in the collection are from the original Kurume azalea collection brought into the United States by John S. Ames of North Easton, Massachusetts. Mr. Ames obtained the plants with the help of the famous plant explorer Ernest ('Chinese') Wilson. Mr. Ames was first able to obtain a small group of Kurumes from Oishi Gardens in Hatageya. In 1919 Mr. Wilson sent his famous 'Wilson's Fifty', a careful selection of outstanding Kurume azaleas, to the Arnold Arboretum, near Boston, where they were evaluated and judged to be a valuable introduction into American gardens.

Plants in the Ames collection were originally grown as greenhouse specimens and were only slowly introduced into the climate of Boston. The group proved to be relatively hardy, and many Kurume azaleas are now grown in the Boston area. The group as a whole has become very popular in American gardens, especially in the Mid-Atlantic states, which share a similar climate to that of their native environment.

The present collection at the National Gallery contains several of the original varieties sent to Mr. Ames by Mr. Wilson. The following seven are known to be of that group (Wilson's names follow in parentheses):

(1) *Benifude* (Sunbeam): salmon pink, white throat, single, 1 to 2 inches in diameter.

(2) *Hana Asobi* (Sultan): red-orange, very large, usually 2 to 3 inches in diameter, single, highly ruffled.

(3) *Ho o* (Apple Blossom): mostly white blushed with light pink, single, 1 to 2 inches in diameter.

(4) *Otome* (Maiden's Blush): blush pink, single, 1 to 2 inches in diameter.

(5) *Sakura Tsukasa* (All-A-Glow): bright pink with a very open corolla, single, 1 to 2 inches in diameter.

(6) *Waka-Kayede* (Red Robin): bright orange-red, single flowers borne in heavy masses, 1 inch in diameter.

(7) *Beni Kirishima* (now classified as a *Sutsuki* [Satsuki ed.] azalea): large, double, orange-red.

The collection also contains many specimen plants from other hybrid groups, such as the Belgian, Rutherford, Southern Indian, and Glenn Dale hybrids.

After Mr. Ames died, the collection eventually came into the hands of Allen C. Haskell of New Bedford. Mr. Haskell, a horticulturist and nurseryman noted in Massachusetts, has added to the collection a substantial group of his own azaleas to make the resulting assemblage an outstanding display of the genus. This collection was first displayed in 1976 at the New England Flower show in Boston. Since that first exhibition the collection has won more than thirty awards including such prestigious honors as the Arnold Arboretum Award, the Garden Club of America Award, the Chicago Horticultural Society Award, and the New England Flower Show Director's Award, as well as nine gold medals.

Mr. Haskell has chosen to honor the 50th anniversary of the National Gallery of Art by the donation of this extraordinary living and growing me-

morial. He has stated that he has 'always thought of them as watercolors when composing exhibits'. Now, whenever the collection is displayed a living composition is created for the enjoyment of all who visit the National Gallery, thanks to the dedicated efforts of John S. Ames and Allen C. Haskell. □

Horticultural Classes At The United States Botanic Garden

The United States Botanic Garden, located at the foot of Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., offers classes that highlight the diversity of the plant world and the magical relationships between plants and people. The courses deal with a broad range of plants grown and displayed at the Garden. Local and nationally renowned experts will explain how exotic plants made their way to America, how a garden reflects the gardener's personality, and how to create successful flower design.

Typical classes last for an hour and are given on Fridays from October through June. Subjects range from orchid growing to botanical drawing. Write to the U.S. Botanic Garden, 245 First Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20024 or call (202) 225-8333 for more information. □

Dr. H. Marc Cathey Accepts New Position

Dr. H. Marc Cathey, Director of the U.S. National Arboretum, has been chosen for a new position as National Chair for Florist and Nursery Crops Review with the Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. Cathey who has served as Director for the past ten years, assumes his new position on September 9, 1991. □

ASA NEW MEMBERS

At-Large Members

Mark D. Alder, DMD
5050 SW Griffith Dr., #202
Averton, OR 97005
PHONE: (503) 641-9010

Arnold Arboretum
of Harvard University
125 Arborway
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
PHONE: (617-524-1718

Raymond & Lorraine
Austin
8005 Thom Road
Richmond, VA 23229

Badger Hill Farms
1190 62nd Street
Fennville, MI 49408
PHONE: (616) 396-7522

Wendy Bergman
c/o Yoder Brothers
P. O. Box 68
Alva, FL 33920
PHONE: (813) 728-2535

Heber & Dolores
Boulard
17513 Skyline Drive
Ashton, MD 20861
PHONE: (301) 774-6653

John J. Byk
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