

## Editor's Letter

As suggested at the Round Table Discussion on **THE AZALEAN** held at the 1995 Annual Meeting and Convention, three new features appear in this issue of **THE AZALEAN**.

The first is an "An Azaleophile Salute". The first azalea person to be honored is Bob Stewart of Springfield, Virginia. The idea for the azaleophile salute originates with Mary and Bill McDavit, and this first "salute" is contributed by them. For this feature to continue, you, the readers must send in contributions such as the McDavits did--please help continue this interesting feature.

The second new feature is a "Questions and Answers" column. These first questions and answers are derived from actual questions received by the chairman of the Society's Public Information Committee, Bill Miller. In order to continue this column we must receive questions from you the readers. So please, send your questions either to The Editor, or to the Chairman of the Public Information Committee.

The third feature is a "Cultural Note" column. The first cultural note was submitted by Jim Thornton, and the continuation of this column depends on the participation of our members. Please send in your contributions.

### Azalea Calender 1996

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| April 1     | Brookside Gardens Chapter Meeting at the Davis Library at 7:30PM                       |
| April 16    | Dallas Chapter Meeting at the Camp House/DABS at 7:00PM                                |
| April 20-21 | Ben Morrison Flower Sale at the Anne Marie GardenFest in Solomons, MD from 11AM to 4PM |
| April 27    | Brookside Gardens Chapter Azalea Festival at the National Arboretum                    |
| May 3-5     | Landon Azalea Garden Festival at 6101 Wilson Lane, Bethesda, MD from 10AM to 5PM       |
| May 6-11    | ARS Annual Convention, Oban, Scotland  |
| May 19      | Ben Morrison Chapter Meeting at Fairview Library at 2:00PM                             |
| June 4      | Dallas Chapter Meeting at the Camp House/DABS at 7:00PM                                |
| July 14     | Ben Morrison Chapter Picnic and Pot Luck Dinner  |
| Sept. 24    | Dallas Chapter Meeting at the Camp House/DABS at 7:00PM                                |
| October 22  | Dallas Chapter Meeting at the Camp House/DABS at 7:00PM                                |
| December 8  | Ben Morrison Chapter Christmas Party at 2:00PM   |

**On the Cover:** *Rhododendron simsii*, U.S. National Arboretum

**Photographer:** Richard T. West

## 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 azaleas Subseries Tsutsusi and Pentanthera of the genus *Rhododendron* in the Heath family (Ericaceae).

### OFFICERS FOR 1995-1996

|                                 |                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>President</b>                | Stephen S. Brainerd |
| <b>Vice-President</b>           | James O. Thornton   |
| <b>Secretary</b>                | William B. McIntosh |
| <b>Acting Treasurer</b>         | Robert Stelloh      |
| <b>Immediate Past-President</b> | L. Malcolm Clark    |

### DIRECTORS

| Terms Expiring in 1996 | Terms Expiring in 1997 |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Carol Allen            | Rosalie Nachman        |
| Tony Dove              | Fred Minch             |
|                        | Arthur Vance           |

Chapter presidents serve as ex-officio directors.

### CHAPTERS

|   |
|---|
| <b>Brookside Gardens</b> (chartered August 1979)<br>Carol Allen, <i>President</i>     |
| <b>Richmond, Virginia</b> (chartered August 1979)<br>Deanie McCluan, <i>President</i> |
| <b>Ben Morrison</b> (chartered May 1980)<br>Niki Baker, <i>President</i>              |
| <b>Northern Virginia</b> (chartered May 1980)<br>John Zottoli, <i>President</i>       |
| <b>Louisiana</b> (chartered June 1981)<br>Bill Bode, <i>President</i>                 |
| <b>Tri-State</b> (chartered October 1981)<br>Loren Gabe, <i>President</i>             |
| <b>Flame Azalea</b> (chartered May 1984)  |
| <b>Dallas Chapter</b> (chartered May 1989)<br>Peggy Kirkland, <i>President</i>        |
| <b>Oconee Chapter</b> (chartered November 1991)<br>Earl Hester, <i>President</i>      |

Regular membership is open to all interested parties for an annual contribution of \$20.00. Life membership for an individual is \$300.00. 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 membership application, write to the Membership Committee, Azalea Society of America, P. O. Box 34536, West Bethesda, MD 20827-0536.