

---

## Chapter News

---

### **Ben Morrison Chapter** **Joe Miller, President**

Led by Vice President Alan Jones, the new chapter steering committee met on January 3 to discuss the purposes of the chapter, its mission, what is expected from the chapter, and ways to expand membership. Committee members are: Deac Moore, Joe and Nuran Miller, Bob and Bee Hobbs. It was agreed that the chapter's mission is "to promote interest in azaleas and to share knowledge and experience with azaleas." Many ideas about membership were raised and will be included in future newsletters.

The March meeting was held near Annapolis in order to give the chapter a chance to attract new area members. Dr. David F. Ross, Associate Professor and Extension Agricultural Engineer in the Department of Biological Resource Engineering, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Maryland, presented a talk on home irrigation systems at the Londontowne Gardens in Edgewater, Maryland. This is the first of a series of talks on irrigation systems for home gardens organized by the new chapter steering committee.

Other ideas included resurrecting the chapter newsletter, identifying a member to do public relations, writing a "history" of the chapter, creating a chapter website, and increasing outreach to schools and other garden clubs. Joan Sweeney, a librarian by experience and secretary with the Solomons Marine Museum, is the new chapter newsletter editor.

### **Brookside Gardens Chapter** **Dianne Gregg, President**

Joe Klimavicz, from the Northern Virginia Chapter, gave a talk on his crosses and hybridizing projects at the April 5 meeting in Bethesda, Maryland. The business meeting discussed the Ryon Page Memorial and flower show procedures.

### **Northern Virginia Chapter** **Dan Krabill, President**

The February 21 meeting centered on a talk about the hybridizing efforts of Bob Stewart and Joe Klimavicz. Joe has received some hybrids from Europe, including some from at-large member Tijs Huisman in the Netherlands. April 25, Bill Miller presented his talk, "Azaleas Through the Eyes of the Hobbyist" distilling his 20 years of azalea growing experience, and illustrated with slides. President Don Krabill invited members to bring in example blooming branches to show the variety of displays in chapter gardens that help make the Washington area "a beautiful large display garden."

Krabill also suggested three new ideas for potential projects to make the chapter more "helpful and meaningful to our members": 1) a multi-year program to evaluate new hybrids or hybrids not currently grown in the area, including some from Nuccio's in southern California, 2) tour of gardens of chapter members and others, 3) participation in one or more plant sales, modeled on the one conducted at Green Spring Garden in May.

Two care and culture articles rounded out the April issue of *The Azalea Clipper*: "Let the Buyer Beware," a reprint of a 1970 article by Art and Anita Frazer from their Columbia Nursery Newsletter listed

points to watch out for in florist azalea purchases. "Springtime Treatment of Plants — Some Guidance" reprised information on lace bug, petal blight, and leaf gall from a 1994 issue of *The Azalea Clipper*.

### **Oconee Chapter** **Frank L. Bryan, Newsletter Editor**

The March 14 meeting, held at the Pavilion at Louis Vaughn Botanical Garden in Olde Town Conyers, Georgia, focused on plants. Allison Fuqua talked about pollinating, hybridizing, and propagating by soft wood cuttings, while Susan Klem, of Cowan Farms, discussed using native plants in botanical gardens. The newsletter called for other hybridizers to share their knowledge and offered to print "wish lists" of desired cuttings for the next cutting party.

The Louis Vaughn Botanical Garden is an ongoing azalea project. Jim Thornton, Al Penland, and Cindy Brown transplanted some big plants most recently. Donations of Kurumes and some spreading, cascading, ground-cover type azaleas are needed. The Master Gardeners of Rockdale have officially joined the Oconee Chapter in supporting this botanical garden project.

A list of Alabama gardens to visit: Long's Garden in Mobile, of pine knolls and ravines covered with azaleas; Oakleigh House, with 3-1/2 acres of old oaks and hundreds of azaleas; Richards D.A.R. Home, Mobile, a restored antebellum mid-1800s home with a formal garden of many cultivars of azaleas and camellias; Birmingham Botanical Gardens' 67-acre rhododendron and azalea garden; Gulf States Paper National Headquarters in Tuscaloosa, with

azaleas in its Japanese garden; Jasmine Hill Gardens, 17 acres in Wetumpka; Noccalula Falls Botanical Garden near Gadsden has more than 21,000 azaleas. Mobile also has an Azalea Trail. In Georgia, visit Callaway Gardens near Pine Mountain to see both the azalea garden developed by Fred Galle and the new Brothers Azalea Bowl, and

Beauvoir, the home of Jefferson Davis near Biloxi, Mississippi, which has 74 acres of woodland with an azalea collection.

Jim Thornton's article on fertilizing azaleas will appear in a future **AZALEAN**. He also presented his "Azaleas A to Z" talk to meetings at the Southern State Garden in Athens, and

at In-town Hardware in Decatur, Georgia.

Jim is requesting further survey results on the performance of Encore Azaleas, for future publication as well.

[Information summarized from chapter newsletters, ed.]

## New Members

### AT LARGE MEMBERS

Sandra Brown  
604 College Avenue  
Kennett, MO 63857  
573-888-3659

Tom Dilatush  
780 Rte. 130  
Robbinsville, NJ 08691  
609-585-8696

William & Bette Elliott  
400 Bodine Road  
Kelso, WA 98626  
360-425-1985

Charles Ellzey  
9 Oak Drive  
Bridgeton, NJ 08302  
609-415-4153

Helen Fowler Library  
Denver Botanic Gardens  
909 York Street  
Denver, CO 80206  
303-370-8014

The John Henry Co.  
Attn: Sara Price  
P. O. Box 17099  
Lansing, MI 48901  
517-886-2536

Walter W. Knight  
2710 W. Airport Road  
Plant City, FL 33567  
813-752-7676

Roger F. Luce  
2479 Kennebec Road  
Newburg, ME 04444  
207-234-4285

George Lyon  
1 Courtland Street  
Starkville, MS 39759  
601-324-8329

Frances Plunkett  
1105 D Street SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
202-543-0309

Nicholas J. Reis  
90 Tower Hill Road  
Tiverton, RI 02878  
401-624-6032

SFA Mast Arboretum  
Dr. David Creech, Director  
P. O. Box 13000  
Dept. of Agriculture  
Nacogdoches, TX 75962  
409-468-4343

Felicia A. Turley  
Turley Farms  
6597 Pearces Road  
Louisburge, NC 27549  
919-496-7301

### BROOKSIDE GARDENS CHAPTER

Ed Alberstadt  
6803 Amelano Drive  
Frederick, MD 21702  
3001-663-1570

Dawn Duggan  
203 Whitefield Court  
Churchville, MD 21028  
410-734-6909

Shirley Grant  
1802 Hunt Creek Run  
Gambrills, MD 21054  
301-261-0055

C. Christopher Fafard  
5821 White Rock Road  
Sykesville, MD 21784  
410-549-7338

Tom Carter & Kate  
Lowman  
P. O. Box 1601  
Sheperdstown, WV 25443  
304-876-3574

Richard & Ginny Mohr  
9200 Marseille Drive  
Potomac, MD 20854  
301-983-3075

Anne C. O'Brien  
17322 Evangeline Lane  
Olney, MD 20832  
301-774-7148

Friends of the Perkins Gargen  
Landon School, c/o Paul Batlen  
6101 Wilson Lane  
Bethesda, MA 20817  
301-320-3200

Harry Robinson  
Sayen Gardens  
155 Hughes Drive  
Hamilton Square, NJ 08690  
609-890-3543

Del Seelye  
6025 Buffalo Road  
Mt. Airy, MD 21771  
301-831-7258

Judy Stembel  
1103 Oakview Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20903  
301-439-6975

Russell E. Strand  
6758 Surreywood Lane  
Bethesda, MD 20817  
391-469-9065

### DALLAS, TEXAS CHAPTER

Ft. Worth Botanic Garden  
3220 Botanic Garden Blvd  
Ft. Worth, TX 76107  
817-871-7673

Diana J. Hills  
5253 Monticello Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75206  
214-821-9252

Vital Earth Resources  
404 E. Broadway  
P. O. Box 1148  
Gladewater, TX 75647  
903-845-5985

### LOUISIANA CHAPTER

Stephen C. Bushardt  
29 Grand Bayou Circle  
Hattiesburg, MS 39402  
601-261-2486

Gordon and Avis Foster  
P. O. Box 221  
Coushatta, LA 71019  
318-932-5219

### NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER

Sheri Alcorn  
8642 Tuttle Road  
Springfield, VA 22152  
703-451-8081

Simon G. Habel  
3300 Prince William Drive  
Fairfax, VA 22031  
202-861-8322

Meg O'Connell  
3910 Rive Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22309  
703-799-8748

### OCONEE CHAPTER

Jane Shirrell Brooks  
407 12th Avenue  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062  
831-479-9036

Rhichard Edward Clifton  
2497 Bonny Drive  
Cocoa, FL 32926  
407-636-9473

Peggy M. Davis  
30 Tabor Forest Drive  
Oxford, GA 30054  
770-787-1497

Reflection Riding  
Arboretum  
400 Garden Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37419  
423-821-9582

### RICHMOND, VIRGINIA CHAPTER

Landon & Elizabeth Davis  
12801 Leffingwell Court  
Richmond, VA 23233  
804-364-3879

### TRI-STATE CHAPTER

Ruth L. Cummings  
9200 Seminary Road  
Evansville, IL 47712  
812-421-0589

Marcia Volkman  
8100 Azalea Drive  
Evansville, IN 47712  
812-985-3603

### In Memory

*The Brookside Gardens Chapter, with regret, reports the death of one of their most avid azalea gardeners and ASA Treasurer, Barbara (Rusty) La Guardia.*

*The Northern Virginia Chapter is saddened to report the death of Evelyn Kaelin on November 21, 1998. She bravely fought cancer the past few years and supported and shared Bruno's interest in growing rhododendrons and azaleas.*