

Call for Articles

Barbara Stump – Nacogdoches, Texas

As we head into the year 2000 and complete the millennium, I need your articles for future issues of **THE AZALEAN**. Take a few minutes to look around in your own neighborhood, or the area that your chapter serves, to see the wealth of sales, garden tours, and botanic gardens that feature azaleas. Americans love azaleas, and as a Society we certainly do. Remember that **THE AZALEAN** provides you with a forum for sharing information about azaleas, their care and culture, and places where you can see them in the landscape.

From time to time, as your editor, I can ask academic researchers for articles, but our primary source of information is still you, the Society's members. Every time you find a new "favorite spot" to visit azaleas, every time you see a neighbor's landscape that is particularly successful in incorporating azaleas, every time you have a question or a solution to a care and culture issue, remember it can go right into **THE AZALEAN** and benefit all of the Society's members.

Looking back at 1999, you can see that as a Society we are all interested in new cultivars of both the evergreen and deciduous azaleas. We know many of you are doing your own hybridizing and hav-

ing success. Why not send me some descriptions and photographs so others can learn about your cutting-edge work? Joe Schild's article on the Philp Garden at Reflection Riding Arboretum and Botanic Garden is just the most recent azalea garden I've heard of that hasn't already been featured in **THE AZALEAN**. But there are many others just beginning, I am sure. If you know of new projects now under way, let me know. Bill Steele's article really tells about the lengths to which nurserymen will go to try to help out their loyal customers, aided by a host of equally helpful ASA members and university researchers. Finally, Jim Thornton's hints on labeling show there is always a place in gardening, and in **THE AZALEAN**, for trying, trying again, and keeping a sense of humor.

The bottom line here is that **THE AZALEAN** is really a record of what you ASA members send in; it shows how you all as a group continue to learn more about azaleas. Send me your in-the-ground experiences so I can continue to provide a high quality journal.

Also, remember to voice your opinion about which article in 1999 was the best article in **THE AZALEAN**, by marking

up the ballot on the wrapper and mailing it in to me by March 20. We will be awarding the prize for Best Article at the convention in Charleston.

Here are a few notes on some basics about article submission and illustrations. However, I am flexible if given enough lead-time to work with you. If you have any ideas for new articles or features, please send these along to me as well.

•**Length:** 1500 words (up to six typed pages) for feature articles, shorter as needed for others.

•**Form:** Typed originals or photocopies.

•**Ideal form:** Word-processed diskette with accompanying hard copy, or sent via e-mail as an attachment to bstump@inu.net. Handwritten submissions are accepted. Send hard copies of all tables.

•**Illustrations:** Digital images are ideal, also sent via e-mail, although slides and prints can be used. Ink drawings or colored drawings can be used, as well.

Deadlines:

March Issue: January 1
June Issue: April 1
September Issue: July 1
December Issue: October 1

Azalea Calendar

March 4,5 & 11,12 Houston Azalea Trail, Houston, Texas, sponsored by the River Oaks Garden Club. Tickets \$12 in advance, \$15 day of tour. Contact 713-523-2483.

March 22-24 ASA Convention and Annual Meeting, Charleston, South Carolina. Contact Jerry Ladner (1-228-832-0236) or Robert Lee (rdlee@l-55.com).

March 24-April 8 Tyler Azalea Trail, Tyler, Texas. A whole range of events, tours of gardens in the community, azalea quilt show, Azalea and Spring Flower Fest 2000 (April 1) and tour of Ina Brundrett Azalea Garden on Tyler Junior College Campus. (Contact Dawn Parnell, VP Tyler CVB, 800-235-5712, or www.tylertexas.com).

April 7-9 Gardeners of Wake County Aza-

lea Sale, Raleigh, North Carolina, State Fairgrounds in the Flower Show Area. Hours: Friday and Saturday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sunday 12 - 5 p.m. About 10,000 plants from 100 varieties available, including deciduous varieties. Master Gardeners will be on hand with care and culture information. For more information, contact sale chairman Jim Wilson, 919-847-5599.

April 9 Dedication of the Ruby Mize Azalea Garden, Nacogdoches, Texas. Contact SFA Mast Arboretum 936-468-4343 or 936-569-2929.

April 14-16 Reflection Riding Arboretum & Botanical Garden's Spring 2000 Wildflower and Native Plant Sale, Chattanooga, Tennessee, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 1-5 p.m. on Sunday. Sales of wildflowers and

native plants, all propagated at Reflection Riding, plus guided wildflower walks and mini "stump talks" at the greenhouse. Programs will include proper planting and care of rhododendrons and native azaleas. Contact 423-821-9582, fax: 423-822-2300, e-mail: gonative@reflection-riding.org.

April 22 Sale of early bloomers at US National Arboretum, Washington, D.C.

May 5-7 Landon School Azalea Garden Festival, Bethesda, Maryland. Contact 301-320-1065.

May 13 Sale at Tilden Middle School, Rockville, Maryland.

May 21 Sale at Brookside Gardens, Wheaton, Maryland.