

Lake Michigan Chapter Photo Contest

The chapter has extended the deadline for submitting pictures for the Photo Contest. The new deadline is: Saturday, Oct 1, 2005

For more information, or to volunteer to be on the panel of judges, contact John Migas 269-857-1505 or Sandra Wearne 630-955-9500 or contact Sandra at swearne@unety.com.

Photo Calendar Contest Rules:

1. You may submit up to 24 of your own original photographs of the beautiful vistas, view points, and/or varieties of azaleas and rhododendrons on the 2005 Convention Garden Tours.

2. You must designate one of the following categories for each photo that you submit:

- **Close Up & Beautiful: Buds & Blooms**
- **Breathtaking Vistas & View Points**
- **Touching or Memorable Moments**

3. You must submit your photos in digital format on a CD at high resolution (i.e., 1000 pixels by 1000 pixels or better) along with the following:

- **For each participant**, you must include your complete contact information such as your name, mailing address, day phone, evening phone, cell phone, email address, age. **IMPORTANT: you must print and sign the photo release form posted on the website.** This form gives the Lake Michigan Chapter permission to use the photos you submit on their ASA Garden Tour Calendar, in the Photo Gallery on their Web site, and in their marketing and promotional materials. Each photo used will have a photo caption indicating the name of the photographer.

- **For each photo**, you must indicate your name, the category, the date/time the photo was taken, and the names of the garden and plants, if known.

4. You must submit your photos with proper documentation on a labeled CD (see above) by October 1st to:

Sandra Wearne

Photo Calendar Committee Chair

25W231 Oldham Road

Naperville, IL 60563

5. You must be a member in good standing of the ASA at the time you submit your entries.

Photo Contest Winners:

- Winners and winning photos will be featured in the 2006 Great Lakes Chapter ASA Photo Calendar.
- Winners and winning photos will be announced and displayed on the Lake Michigan Chapter Web site by Nov 1, 2005 at: <http://azaleas-lake-michigan.org>
- An independent panel of judges will be selected from non-participants. If you would like to volunteer to become a judge, contact the Photo Calendar Committee Chair.
- **IMPORTANT: Be sure you do NOT send your only copy of your entries, as photo CDs cannot be returned and will become the property of the Lake Michigan Chapter of the ASA.**
- If you have questions or comments or wish to serve on the Photo Calendar Committee, contact the Committee Chair.

Membership Note: Alabamense Chapter Wins Again!

What did they win? They had the most growth of any chapter, again in 2005. It was an easy win in 2004 because they were new, so their growth from 0 to 34 members was infinite. This year they kept on growing, by having all their members renew and adding 10 new members, for a new total of 44 members, or 30% more than last year.

Next was Lake Michigan chapter, growing from 31 to 36 members, or 16% more than last year. The Northern Virginia chapter stayed even at 59 members, as did the Dallas chapter at 24 members.

Unfortunately, none of our other chapters have stayed even with their 2004 membership, so our overall 2004 membership is just 95% of our 2005 membership. Let's fix that. Besides making sure all your current members renew, take advantage of our \$20 gift membership and get your friends and neighbors started as members of the Azalea Society—it makes a good Christmas present!

Society Documents Have New Look

Barbara Stump, Editor—Nacogdoches, Texas

Cover Photo

By now you will have noticed that the front cover of *The Azalean* is now being printed with what is called a "full-bleed" color cover. We made this change with the Winter 2004 issue, thanks to help from Joe Schild, Bob Stelloh, and Dr. John Root from Mt. Baker Research in Bellingham, Washington. This means you have yet another opportunity to impact the look and content of the Society's official journal. More and more of you members are not only interested in digital photography, but you are also becoming proficient with it, as shown by the photography contests being held by both the Ben Morrison and Lake Michigan chapters. Therefore, I encourage you to look critically at your close ups of favorite, colorful, or unusually formed azalea blooms, then contribute the best of your images to be used as a cover for *The Azalean*. I need maximum resolution of no less than 1600 pixels by 1600 pixels at no less than 300 dots per inch (dpi). I can also scan from regular photographs or

slides, but they must be very sharp images. It would be even better if you could write an article to go with your cover photo.

Society News

In addition, you'll notice that in this issue the Society News section is in the middle of the journal. This is dictated by the way the color pages are printed and the fact that eight pages of every 24-page issue must be black-and-white to stay at our current economical cost.

ASA Roster

Finally, the format of the 2004-2005 Azalea Society of America Roster has been revised for easier reading and to highlight the alphabetical arrangement. We are printing the paper copy of the Roster every two years, so the next one will cover 2006-2007.

To submit photos or articles, contact me at: 936-462-7195 or bsstump@sbcglobal.net.