

The Azalean

*Journal of the Azalea Society
of America*

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The Azalean (ISSN-1085-5343) is published quarterly (spring, summer, fall and winter) by the Azalea Society of America, Inc., Carol Flowers, Secretary, 7195 Henson Landing Road, Welcome, MD 20693.

Additional copies of the current and back issues can be obtained from Azalean Back Issues, 1000 Moody Bridge Road, Cleveland, SC 29635; jbrown51@bellsouth.net. Please include \$1 per copy ordered, plus \$1 per order. Orders from outside the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, add \$1 per issue for postage.

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Printed By: **Complete Printing**

Carthage, Texas

Design By: **Alicia Robinett Britt**

Norman, Oklahoma

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NUMBER 2

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On the Cover

Earl Sommerville collected 'Vivian Abney' in the mid-1980s. The collection location was not noted and parentage is unknown, based on the name registration information he filed. The corolla is tubular funnel-shaped, 1.6" x 1.25" wide, with wavy-edged margins; 16 flowers per flat truss. Calyx lobes are 0.2" long, grayish yellow green (194B). Flower color is deep purplish pink (54B) in bud. As they open, the inside color is strong purplish pink (55B) with slightly lighter pink down the center of each lobe and a conspicuous light orange yellow (19A) dorsal blotch; the outside color is light purplish pink (55C). The truss is 1.5" x 3.5" wide. The leaves are elliptic, with a broadly acute apex, cuneate base, and flat margins; they are semi-glossy and moderate yellow green (146B) on the top surfaces. The shrub is 4.5' x 6' wide in about 15 years; habit is intermediate. Flowering period is early. Plant is hardy to at least -6°F. (Photo by Earl Sommerville; registration information provided by Mrs. Jay Murray, Registrar of Plant Names for North American for the American Rhododendron Society.)