

Society News

ASA Seed Exchange

By Aaron Cook—Valdese, North Carolina

As most of you know by now we have a new seed exchange program in the ASA. In order for it to grow and become successful we need your seed contributions. So please make crosses and collect seed from desirable plants in order to contribute seed to the seed exchange.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the following contributors: **Bob Stelloh, Joe and Donna Coleman, John and Sally Perkins, Ray Head, Frank Pelurie, Larry Mucci, Jim Thornton, Ed Collins** and other members of the **Vaseyi Chapter**. Last year there were 94 different seed lots which generated approximately \$200 for the general operating fund of the ASA.

The future success of this program is dependent on you. Please consider making a seed contribution for this year's seed exchange. Seed will be accepted from ASA members and other sources through December 15.

The seed packets from each plant should include at least 50 seeds and be described by the following:

- contributor's name
- seed parent name
- pollen parent name
- pollination type (c.w.—collected wild; o.p.—open pollinated; h.p.—hand pollinated)
- where collected (geographic feature or town)
- notes

There is a seed data form on the ASA Web page (www.azaleas.org) that should be used to describe the seed. It is a small (4KB) PDF file that can be downloaded and printed.

If you have digital pictures of the parents, please e-mail them to Bob Stelloh at bstelloh@mac.com with the name, date and location taken. Photos will be posted on the ASA Web site with a link to your seed.

Seed should be current year's production and cleaned. Put cleaned seed from one plant into one paper envelope with one completed form, and mail any number of envelopes at once to:

ASA Seed Exchange
804 Piedmont Ave.
Valdese, NC 28690-3161

When seed is received, each packet is assigned a number and stored until January 1 when it is listed on the ASA Web site.

Seed orders from contributors and ASA members will be filled beginning January 1. Starting March 1, orders will be filled for anyone.

As an added incentive to contribute seed, all contributors will be sent a list of "bonus seed" which is

comprised of seed received in quantities too small to be offered in the seed exchange. Contributors may order seed from the "bonus seed" list free of charge (shipping fees will apply).

All seed not distributed before the annual meeting will be brought to the convention and offered for sale. Once the sale at the convention is complete, the seed exchange will be closed until the following year.

Board Approves E-voting

By John Brown—Cleveland, South Carolina

At the April 1, 2007, Board of Directors meeting action was taken to ratify the President's interpretation of the word "mail" to include e-mail as it appears in the By-Laws Article VI Board of Directors Section J manner of acting "...in the interim between duly constituted meetings of the Board, the President or any three members of the Board acting in unison may order the submission of a mail-in ballot to the Directors."

The Board has placed restrictions on the adoption of this interpretation, and I have summarized those restrictions as follows.

E-voting will be limited to matters requiring the immediate attention of the Board. This would include decisions and approvals necessary to meet publishing requirements for *The Azalean* but would not include the same decision that did not have a time requirement. The President has the responsibility of determining whether or not to call a vote. Input from board members will be appreciated.

Before any vote is imposed, it must be determined that every board member has access to the e-mail list either in person or by reliable proxy. No limit shall be placed on any Board member's ability to pose questions on the e-mail list but e-voting will follow as closely as possible the normal voting procedures, i.e. only the President may call for an e-vote and it is his responsibility to insure that all Board members have the question, and are given an opportunity to debate and vote.

For each question, a reasonable time will be allowed for discussion before calling the question. Quorums will be determined by a count of the members voting and must satisfy the quorum requirements given in the By-Laws. The By-Laws further state "...an affirmative vote of a majority of those eligible to vote shall be interpreted as the official action of the Board and shall become a part of the minutes of the next official meeting of the Board."

The President may personally contact any Board member(s) to obtain a vote on critical issues and shall post that vote on the e-mail list.