

Society News

Applications Accepted for Research Grants

J.O. Thornton, ARF Committee Chairman

The Azalea Research Foundation committee is now accepting applications for research grants. Researchers should submit proposals before March 1, 2011. Application information and forms can be found on the ASA Web site: www.azaleas.org.

All Society members should take note of this “first of a kind undertaking” in our history, but be mindful that in order to continue to make funds available, we must have support. In light of this, we would like to recognize the following donors for their contributions during 2010:

Northern Virginia Chapter

Dr. Joe Coleman

Anonymous

Richard Clifton

Tijs Huisman

Bob Stelloh

Jim Trumbly

Mr. and Mrs. James Dennis

Magnolia Plantation and Gardens

Tennessee Valley Chapter of the ARS

We feel their generosity has given us the confidence to solicit applications for grants and to move forward with the Azalea Society research program. Let's make 2011 even more profitable—send us a donation today. Contributions should be sent to:

Azalea Research Foundation

c/o J.O. Thornton, Chairman

884 June Dr.

Conyers, GA 30094

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee presents the following candidates for the 2011-13 ASA Board. Please vote using the official ballot found on the wrapper of this issue. Ballots must be received by April 15, 2011.

Candidate for President

John Migas lives in southwestern Michigan off the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan. A carpenter by trade since 1978, he operates a small nursery and landscape service in the Saugatuck-Douglas-Holland area. He is currently Treasurer of the Lake Michigan Chapter of the ASA, has also served as chapter president and ASA Director. He has recently served three terms as President of the Midwest Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society.

Candidate for Vice President

J. Jackson and his wife, Lindy, operate a small container nursery, The Tennessee Rose Native Azalea Nursery, in the

Blue Ridge of East Tennessee. In the beginning everything was grown in the ground, but pressure from deer browsing forced a change to container production.

The nursery specializes in growing native and hybrid deciduous azaleas. For several years, plants were grown from micropropagated (tissue culture) liners. During the last few years, however, the Jacksons made a deliberate move to growing deciduous and evergreen forms of the rhododendron species from seed.

The decision to cultivate from seed was motivated by preservation. Many rhododendron species have become endangered from the practice of collecting wild plants. The Jacksons seek out specimens in the wild (and in collections) that have superior characteristics of growth, foliage and bloom, and propagate open-pollinated seeds from the plants.

The Jacksons believe one of the most enjoyable aspects of the process is exploring for and finding beautiful specimens “in bloom” or “in seed” in the wild. Digital photography is used to document the bloom and growth habit of the plants. GPS coordinates are used to map the plant location, which allows the plant to be easily relocated without having to mark or tag the specimen in any way.

Candidate for Treasurer

Dan Krabill has been a member of the ASA since 1987. He was Vice President of the Northern Virginia Chapter in 1997-98 and 2003-04, and president in 1999-2000 and 2005-06. He has served as ASA Treasurer since 2007.

He grows approximately 1,100 varieties of azaleas at his home in McLean, Virginia, including the great majority of the Glenn Dales. He has published an article “Photographing the Glenn Dale Azaleas” in *The Azalean*, and has distributed a CD consisting of digital photos of most of the Glenn Dale azaleas.

Dan is a management consultant to the banking industry. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics from Miami University, and a Master of Business Administration degree from Harvard with a concentration in finance.

Candidates for Director

Eve Harrison served as President of the Northern Virginia Chapter ASA from 2006-2010. She is an avid gardener and enjoys propagating evergreen and deciduous azaleas from seed.

She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Queens College, Charlotte, North Carolina. She was an Orff Schulwerk music teacher 20 years before becoming a principal broker in a real estate company. She is also a member of Main Street Singers and is involved in musical theater.

Barbara Stump was awarded a Master of Science degree in Agriculture from Stephen F. Austin State University,

Nacogdoches, Texas, in 2001 for "Site Analysis and Design of the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden." The project involved coordinating the effort to actually build the 8-acre garden and plant it with more than 8,000 specimens, of which 6,500 are azaleas. The current count is more than 520 named cultivars from 52 hybrid groups. She works half time to develop new projects and funding for the SFA Gardens. The motto for all her garden work: "This world is so beautiful, it is amazing we are allowed to live here and enjoy it as long as we are."

Barbara has been a member of the ASA since 1997 and was the editor of *The Azalean* from 1997-2007. The ASA has been invaluable in expanding the network of nurserymen and breeders who have been generous in donations of special collections of azaleas for the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden. Barbara lives in Nacogdoches, Texas, and has been active in renewing interest in the Texas Chapter along with **Bart Brechter, Pam Fitch**, and her late husband **Mike**. She co-chaired the 2007 ASA convention held in Nacogdoches.

Rocky Voci has been an ASA member for 10 years, and served as Vice President of the Lake Michigan Chapter for five years.

He holds a Master's Degree in Finance and Marketing and a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry. He retired from Dow Corning Corporation after a 35-year career.

Voci is active in his community, serving as president and director of the 5000-member Canadian Lake Property Owners Corporation as well as president and secretary of Midland Michigan Morning Rotary Club. He is currently a member of the Big Rapids Michigan Rotary Club.

Recognizing Generous ASA Donors

Dan Krabill, Treasurer

I would like to recognize and thank those individuals who have donated to the Azalea Society of America, by paying dues in excess of the \$25 per year standard amount or by making direct payments to the ASA. We have three categories for donations in excess of regular dues—Endowment

(\$200 or more per year), Sustaining (\$100 to \$199 per year), and Contributing (\$50 - \$99 per year). These donations will provide approximately 10 percent of our income in 2010 and thus are important in carrying out the work of the ASA.

Below is a list of members in these three categories for 2010.

Contributing Members 2010

Annual Dues Payments of \$50 to \$99

Parker Andes
Stephen Ash
John Bartlett
Barry & Nancy Bosworth
John & Carolyn Brown
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Dr. Joe H. Coleman, Jr
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Marianne & Bruce Feller
Maggie & Brent Fernald
William & Eleanor Gural
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Richard and Nancy Lear
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W. T. Norris, Jr, MD
Eddie Sams
Cid & Liza Scallet
H. R. Schmittou
Bruce Seal & Liz Rachun
David & Carolyn Smith
Nancy Snoberger
Roger A. Thompson

Sustaining Members 2010

Annual Dues Payments of \$100 to \$199

Louis J. Appell, Jr
Dan & Barbara Krabill
Larry Miller
Dr. & Mrs. Donald E. Moreland
Mrs. Lawrence Nachman
Nan & John Papalia
Cecil and Gloria Settle
Barbara & Michael Stump
Frederick L. Thane

Endowment Members 2010

Annual Dues Payments of \$200 or more

Robert & Dixie Lee
Magnolia Plantation
Donald H. Voss



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Carol Flowers, ASA Secretary
700 New Hampshire NW, Apt. 1011
Washington, D C 20037