

- 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Workshop: Flower Show Judging—  
Overlook Ballroom
- 4:30 - 6 p.m. Hybridizers Roundtable—Foxfire Room
- 6 - 7 p.m. Social Hour (cash bar)—Roan, Pisgah,  
Pilot Rooms
- 7 - 8 p.m. ARS Banquet—Roan, Pisgah, Pilot Rooms
- 8 - 8:30 p.m. ARS Annual Meeting—Roan, Pisgah,  
Pilot Rooms
- 8:45 - 9:45 p.m. Presentation “From Mountain to Plain,”  
Christina Woodward and Nick Yarmoshuk—  
Roan, Pisgah, Pilot Rooms
- 9:45 - 11:15 p.m. Plant and Book Sale Open—Mitchell Room,  
Biltmore Foyer
- 9:45 - 11:15 p.m. Flower & Photo Show Open—Overlook Ballroom

### Sunday, May 6, 2012

- 6:30 - 9 a.m. Breakfast Buffet, included in tour—  
Roan and other rooms
- 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tour—Hendersonville: Grist, Collins,  
Stewart, Stelloh Gardens
- 4 - 6 p.m. Plant and Book Sale Open—Mitchell Room,  
Biltmore Foyer
- 4:30 - 6 p.m. ARS Executive Director Forum—Dogwood Room
- 6 - 6:30 p.m. Social Hour (cash bar)—Roan, Pisgah,  
Pilot Rooms
- 6:30-7:30 p.m. ASA Banquet—Roan, Pisgah, Pilot Rooms
- 7:30-8:00 p.m. ASA Annual Meeting—Roan, Pisgah,  
Pilot Rooms
- 8 - 8:30 p.m. Auction—Roan, Pisgah, Pilot Rooms
- 8:45 - 9:45 p.m. Presentation “Trekking Through Swarms of  
Azaleas,” Tom Ranney, Kimberley Shearer, and  
Jason Lattier—Roan, Pisgah, Pilot Rooms
- 9:45 - 11:15 p.m. Plant and Book Sale Open—Mitchell Room,  
Biltmore Foyer

### Monday, May 7, 2012

- 6:30 - 9 a.m. Breakfast Buffet, included in tour—  
Roan and other rooms
- 6:30 - 9 a.m. Breakfast on your own if not on tour—  
Pro’s Table Restaurant
- 8 - 10 a.m. ASA Board Meeting—Dogwood Room
- 8 - 11 a.m. Plant and Book Sale Open—Mitchell Room,  
Biltmore Foyer
- 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bonus Tour—Bell, Richards, Bullington Center,  
White Gate Inn

## Magnolia Plantation Gets USNA Cuttings

Over the summer, **Tom Johnson**, director of gardens at Magnolia Plantation in Charleston, South Carolina, and founding member of the Great Gardens of America Preservation Alliance, visited the U.S. National Arboretum along with members of the Rev. J. G. Drayton Chapter of the ASA.

The expedition had a purpose—preserving azaleas. In December 2010, Johnson contacted the arboretum with an unusual request. He wanted to take cuttings from the prized Glenn Dale azalea collection bred by former arboretum Director Ben Morrison in the 1940s. At the time, the azaleas on the southern face of Mount Hamilton were slated for destruction, and Johnson wanted to do what he could to preserve Morrison’s work.

In late December, Johnson received approval to take 500 cuttings from the more than 3,000 of Morrison’s azaleas still residing at the arboretum. It is believed that Morrison planted as many as 10,000 azaleas during his tenure at the Arboretum, but the majority were lost in the 1980s.

Johnson doesn’t want history to repeat itself. He plans to propagate the cuttings in greenhouses at Magnolia Plantation and then distribute the azaleas to 30 other public and private gardens across the United States.

Magnolia Plantation’s effort distributing the plants is very important, so all the eggs are not in one basket. A plant is lost forever when it’s lost, according to Scott Aker, the Arboretum horticulture director, who proposed destruction of the azaleas.

Meanwhile, a public outcry, coupled with a \$1 million anonymous donation, has saved, for at least a while—the valuable azalea collection on the southern face of Mount Hamilton. However, this doesn’t lessen the importance of Johnson’s efforts. Plants can be devastated by more than budget cuts. Threats such as insects and disease can also wipe out a species.

“We have learned it’s really scary to have one plant in (only) one location,” Johnson said in an interview with Charleston’s *The Post and Courier*.

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*The Azalean* is the official journal of the Azalea Society of America, devoted to the culture, propagation and appreciation of azaleas. It is published four times a year (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter). Each issue is 24 pages, 16 of them in full color. It is mailed to approximately 1,000 dedicated azalea buyers. For more information, visit [www.azaleas.org](http://www.azaleas.org).