

# Society News

## New Editors Selected for *The Azalean*

The ASA Board of Directors have named **Preston** and **Bonnie Cooley** as the new editors of *The Azalean*. Preston is a native South Carolinian whose family has lived in the state for more than 200 years. He graduated from the College of Charleston with a degree in history. Indeed, history is his passion, not just people and places, but also landscape and garden history. This interest in people, places, and plants is combined in his role as historian at Magnolia Plantation, America's last intact, large-scale picturesque style garden.

Bonnie Cooley hails originally from Texas, but claimed several states as home. She graduated from Stephens College in Missouri with a degree in Equestrian Science and a minor in business. After moving to Charleston, South Carolina in 1998, she discovered an interest in history that blends itself into her professional pursuits. She also works at Magnolia Plantation.

Preston and Bonnie Cooley live in Summerville, South Carolina, with their sons, Jefferson and William. They have worked together on many projects and enterprises, including their own tour company in downtown Charleston, South Carolina. Preston and Bonnie are charter members of the Rev. John Drayton chapter of the ASA.

The Cooleys will assume the responsibilities for *The Azalean* beginning with the Spring 2012 issue. The journal's e-mail address remains the same: [theazalean@gmail.com](mailto:theazalean@gmail.com). The Cooley's mailing address is: P.O. Box 627, Ladson, SC 29456.

## Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee presents the following candidates for the 2012-14 ASA Board. Please vote using the official ballot found on the wrapper of this issue. Ballots must be received by April 15, 2012.

### Candidate for Secretary

**Leslie Nanney** has been an ASA member for more than 30 years. She is a founding member of the Northern Virginia chapter and has served as its treasurer. She is also a past national director.

Leslie retired from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, allowing much more time to spend in the garden. She and her husband Dave live in Springfield, Virginia. They are growing more than 1,000 cultivars, concentrating on acquiring complete collections of many prominent hybridizers.

### Candidates for Director

**Miles Beach** is a founding member of the Rev. John Drayton Chapter ASA. He is a nationally recognized speaker on ancient camellias, and serves as director of research and propagation of the ancient azaleas as well as the director of the camellia collection at Magnolia on the Ashley in Charleston, South Carolina.

Beach is a Certified Master Gardener by Clemson University, past president of the Coastal Carolina Camellia Society, and secretary of the American Camellia Society.

He is married to Brenda who "he loves even more than camellias!"

**Lindy Johnson** of Trade, Tennessee, has been a member of the Vaseyi Chapter since 2001. She has been growing native azaleas and other native plants from seed along with her husband J. at their small nursery for more than 20 years.

In the mid 1980s, they met and befriended a nurseryman from Ohio who introduced them to native azaleas and rhododendron. As a result, their lives have never been the same.

Presently, Lindy is one of the founding members of the board of directors of Appalachian Native Plants, Inc. a non-profit native plant nursery in Mountain City, Tennessee, and has been the propagator over the last three seasons.

She retired in 2002 after a 32 year career as a flight attendant.

**Larry Miller**, a resident of Evansville, Indiana, has been an ASA member since 2004 and is past president of the Tri-State Chapter. He has been a life-long azalea enthusiast and is a Purdue University Master Gardener. He has helped with several national conventions and has opened his residence and garden in the Evansville Historic Preservation District to numerous tours. In a nearby park, Larry coordinated the Fred Sievers Memorial Azalea Garden in memory of a garden writer and Tri-State Chapter member.

Larry is retired owner of Miller Block and Brick Company and also maintains a residence in Asheville, North Carolina.

## Upcoming Convention Locations Slated

The ASA Board of Directors is pleased to announce the following locations for upcoming national conventions:

2013 Athens, Georgia  
2014 Charleston, South Carolina  
2015 Nacogdoches, Texas

The 2012 ASA national convention will take place May 4-7 in Asheville, North Carolina. It is a joint convention with the American Rhododendron Society. For more information, including a full schedule of events, visit the ASA Web site at [www.azaleas.org](http://www.azaleas.org).

## ASA Seed Exchange

Thanks to the seed donors and the efforts of **Aaron Cook** and his horticulture students, the seed exchange is up and running. The direct address to the seed list Web page is <http://www.azaleas.org/azseedlist2012.html>.

"We have a good number of seed lots this year, even though the number of contributors is down," said Cook. "We have many hand pollinated crosses and a very good selection of deciduous azalea seeds."

The seed is available For \$2 per pack. Each pack contains 50 seeds. Excess seed will be sold at the annual ASA convention, May 4 to 6.

## Treasurer's Report

Dan Krabill

*Note: Condensed from presentation at annual meeting on April 28, 2011.*

In 2010, the ASA took in \$29,733 and spent \$16,612, and thereby took in \$12,921 more than we spent, as shown on the attached Income Statement.

One unusual event that distorts the 2010 results somewhat is that we paid for the printing and editing of only three issues of *The Azalean* during the year. The winter 2010 issue was published and paid for in January 2011; if we had paid for it during 2010, our surplus for the year would have been approximately \$8,500.

Reasons for the improvement over 2009 include \$3,000 in gifts from the Northern Virginia Chapter from proceeds from the 2009 convention, another major gift of \$1,000, and smaller improvements in a number of other areas.

As a result of the excess of income over expenses in 2010, our net assets increased by \$12,921 during the year, to \$108,682 at the end of 2010. It is allocated among the operating fund, \$14,067; general endowment fund, \$63,407; research fund, \$24,956; and Harding Garden fund, \$6,252.

## ASA Supports Creation of Harding Garden

The ASA recently made a \$6,000 donation to fund the creation of the Harding Garden in Laytonsville, Maryland, in honor of George Harding.

A founding member of the ASA, Harding was a foremost azalea expert. More importantly, he was an outstanding person and plantsman, admired and respected by all who came to know him. He began propagating azaleas in 1924 and

► The ASA recently donated more than \$6,000 to support the creation of the Harding Garden in Laytonsville, Maryland. Dave Nanney presented the check on behalf of the ASA Board of Directors to Mike White, grandson of George Harding. White is spearheading the garden's development and is expecting to break ground this Spring.



started a nursery in 1929. He retired as Chief, Horticulture & Maintenance of the National Capitol Parks Service in 1959, and continued to run his nursery in Germantown, Maryland, until he died in 1990.

Harding's grandson, Mike White, is leading the effort to establish the garden. White owns and operates White's Nursery.

## New Azalea Line Released

A brand new azalea release has just hit the market backed by two partnering companies. Proven Winners® and Greenleaf Nursery have produced and released the new Bloom-A-Thon® Azalea line.

The Bloom-A-Thon® Reblooming Azaleas are ever-green flowering shrubs that will bloom in spring only to rebloom in mid to late summer until fall. This new azalea line touts features similar to that of the increasing popular Encore® Azaleas but with more cold hardiness for our cooler climates.

Bloom-A-Thon® Azaleas were developed by Bob and Lisa Head, of Head's Select, Inc., in Seneca, South Carolina. Smaller Bloom-A-Thon® varieties are perfect for container gardens that demand maximum performance year round for every inch of allotted space. Bloom-A-Thon® reblooming azaleas are available in four colors: red, white (dwarf ever-green shrub), lavender and double pink. They are all patented and the respective cultivar names are 'RLH1-1P2', 'RLH1-3P3', 'RLH1-4P19', and 'RLH1-2P8'.

### ASA Financial Position at December 31, 2010

#### INCOME STATEMENT Year 2010

INCOME	
Azalean Income	783.00
Dues Income	15,506.00
Gift Income	7,879.00
Interest Income	4,478.92
Seed Exchange Income	1,086.00
Other Income	0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>29,732.92</b>

EXPENSES	
Awards and Memorials	0.00
Azalean Expense	13,113.98
Chapter Dues Expense	2,195.00
Dues Expense	91.23
Website Expense	130.40
Other Postage Expense	167.64
Other Expense	1,113.49
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>16,811.74</b>
<b>Income-Expenses</b>	<b>12,921.18</b>

#### BALANCE SHEET December 31, 2010

ASSETS	
Checking	15,042.13
Investments	93,640.37
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>108,682.50</b>
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES	
Operating Fund	14,067.45
General Endowment	63,407.08
Research Fund	24,955.53
Harding Garden	6,252.45
<b>Total Liabilities and Reserves</b>	<b>108,682.50</b>