

President's Letter

J Jackson—Trade, Tennessee

Dear Azalea Friends,

Another fall season is already here; they seem to come around so quickly now. The late *Hydrangea paniculata* forms are lighting up the garden for us and the buckeye trees on the creek are already turning and dropping their fruit. Lindy and I have been watching azalea seed pods for signs of being ripe enough to harvest. Many of our chapters will be gathering to have seed exchange meetings in the next couple of months. The ASA seed exchange work will start pretty soon. This October our native azalea friends will be going out into the wilds of the southern Appalachians to collect seed from garden worthy plants. Some of this seed will be available through the seed exchange. Please think about donating seed to the seed exchange this year. Evergreen azalea seed is very welcome as well.

Our membership numbers are holding fairly steady. I am really excited that the Ben Morrison Chapter has come out of dormancy and wish to express many thanks to Budne Reinke for stepping up and becoming the chapter president. This is some of the best news I have received since we enjoyed such a wonderful convention in Williamsburg.

It is time for nominations for our national BOD members. A new president and vice president will be nominated and elected. The secretary, treasurer and national directors' positions are also slated for the ballot. Barbara Stump and Pam Fitch are planning to continue with The Azalean. Their work is really wonderful and so important to the ASA. Please make your wishes for new officers and BOD members known to your Chapter president or to our secretary, Leslie Nanney (leslie.nannny@gmail.com). This society business is very important, and I would like to see more interest and involvement from our members.

*Best regards,
J*

▼ *Rhododendron prunifolium*, plumleaf azalea.



The Azalea Society of America, organized December 9, 1977 and incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an educational and scientific non-profit association devoted to the culture, propagation, and appreciation of azaleas which are in the subgenera *Tsutsusi* and *Pentanthera* of the genus *Rhododendron* in the Heath family (*Ericaceae*).

Officers for 2015-2017

President — J Jackson

Vice President — Barbara Stump

Secretary — Leslie Nanney

Treasurer — Paul Beck

Immediate Past President — John Migas

Directors

Terms expire 2017 **Terms expire 2018**

Miles Beach

Larry Miller

Bart Brechter

Jo Ann Smith

Joe Coleman

Chris Wetmore

Chapter presidents

serve as ex-officio directors.

Chapters

Ben Morrison
(chartered May 1980)
Budne Reinke, Pres.

Northern Virginia
(chartered May 1980)
Rick Bauer, Pres.

Louisiana
(chartered June 1981)
Allen Owings, Pres.

Tri-State
(chartered Oct. 1981)
Beverly Knight, Pres.

Texas
(chartered May 1989)
Mary Beth Hagood, Pres.

Vaseyi
(chartered June 2001)
Audrey Stelloh, Pres.

Lake Michigan
(chartered May 2003)
Open, Pres.

Alabamense
(chartered May 2005)
Patrick Thompson, Pres.

Southern California
(chartered March 2007)
Jim Jaeger, Pres.

Rev. John Drayton
(chartered May 2010)
Tom Johnson, Pres.

Cape Fear
(chartered October 2013)
Open, Pres.

Central Carolinas
(chartered October 2013)
Sandy Yakob, Pres.

At-Large Contact

Chris Wetmore

Regular membership is open to all interested parties for an annual amount of \$30; life-membership for one or two persons at the same address is \$600. Members receive *The Azalean* and are eligible for participation in all activities of the Society. For information and a membership application, write to Leslie Nanney, Secretary, 8646 Tuttle Road, Springfield, VA 22152 or visit www.azaleas.org.