

# Chapter News

## Alabamense Chapter

**Patrick Thompson, President**

Alabamense Chapter members Billie Oliver, Dennis Pinkard, and Morgan Beadles, along with Arboretum employees and volunteers, have helped for years building, and more recently field-checking, the azalea collection at the Davis Arboretum in Auburn, Georgia, to update the arboretum collections records. In the winter edition of *The Azalean* we requested collections records from public gardens around the country. Here is a preview of the arboretum's work on that survey. This chart represents the varying proportions of types of deciduous azaleas in the Davis Arboretum's collection. Later this year you can expect a full article reporting details from several prominent azalea collections, including the amount of wild collected plants reported, as well as lists of cultivars, and comparisons of how well the native species are represented, and the states where collections have been made.

You will notice that a large piece of the Arboretum's pie-chart is labeled ER/YR Tetraploids. This is a group of plants from the panhandle of Florida and South Alabama that occur in many collections in the Eastern US but that don't quite key out to *R. austrinum*, and don't have a more appropriate species name right now. For more on these vigorous plants, read Ron Miller's article "Is *Rhododendron austrinum* Always Yellow? A Case Study in Blindness." in the Spring 2011 edition of *The Azalean*.

**Welcome new members:** Juanita Dodd, Lillian, AL and Wayne Snellgrove, LaGrange, GA

## Ben Morrison Chapter

welcomes new member William Hoffman, Ridgewood, NJ.

## Louisiana Chapter

**Allen Owings, President**

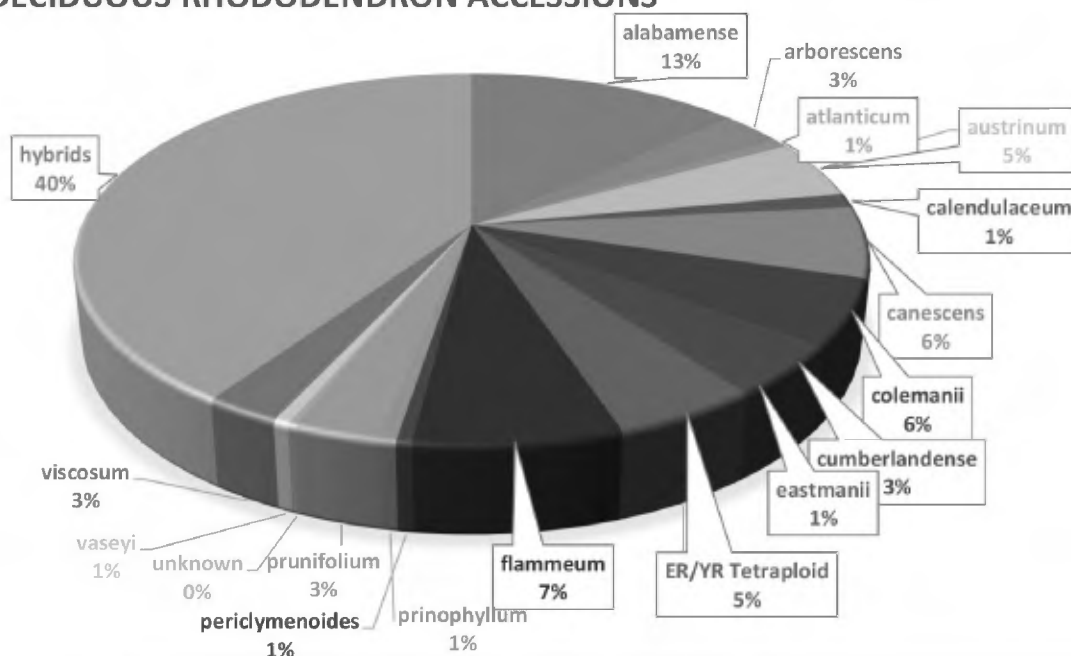
Peggy Cox, former president of the Louisiana Chapter ASA and past board member of the ASA, was named a Life Member of the Louisiana State Horticulture Society at their annual meeting in Baton Rouge in January 2018.

▼ Allen Owings, left and Peggy Cox, right.



Photo: Yan Chen

## AUBURN UNIVERSITY DAVIS ARBORETUM COUNT OF 717 DECIDUOUS RHODODENDRON ACCESSIONS





▲ Award presented by Danny Summers from SNA (left), to Buddy Lee (right).



▲ Chapter Treasurer Paul Beck (standing) discusses chapter budget as Carolyn Beck, Budne Reinke, and President Barbara Kirkwood look on (l to r).

Congratulations to Louisiana Chapter member, past ASA president and life member, Buddy Lee who won the Don Shadow Award of Excellence at the Southern Nursery Association Conference, held during the MidAtlantic Nursery Trade Show (MANTS) Baltimore. The Don Shadow Award of Excellence is presented to an individual, corporation or organization that has provided exemplary service, leadership and generosity in the development, promotion and use of new and improved landscape plants.

## Northern Virginia Chapter

### *Barry Sperling—Corresponding Secretary*

The Northern VA Chapter ended an active 2017. The development of a working relationship with Meadowlark Gardens in creating a display garden for the hybrids of Joe Klimavicz was a highlight, as was the annual cap on the year: the Holiday Social.

Carolyn Beck and Barb Kirkwood have been working on the logistics of finding a site within Meadowlark Gardens which would be appropriate for the Klimavicz's evergreen hybrids and developing the paperwork which would make the garden successful and protected.

At the Holiday Social, the potluck meal provided more than enough food, of all varieties, to fully stuff the members before they collapsed into their chairs. At the meeting, President Barb Kirkwood presided over several orders of business, including details from the treasurer, Paul Beck, on the club's successful year, the reelection of officers (President Barb Kirkwood, Vice President Lars Larson, Secretary Joanne Neckel and treasurer Paul Beck) and a vote for recipients of our yearly donations (made possible by plant sales):

Meadowlark Gardens, Friends of the National Arboretum, the Green Spring Gardens Title I program, the Norfolk Botanical Garden (including their Glenn Dale project), and the Azalea Society of America.

We are all appreciative of the efforts of Jean and Lars Larson in opening their home again for the social! 2018

looks to be at least as active as 2017 and our calendar is available to all on the website: [www.nv-asa.org](http://www.nv-asa.org)

Rick Bauer's monthly newsletter provided most of the information above. Thank you, Rick!

**Welcome new member:** Robert Benbow, Hot Springs, AR.

## Rev. John Drayton Chapter

**Welcomes new members:** Catherine Burbank, Charleston; M. Linda Ensor, Summerville; Annette Kibler, Mt. Pleasant; and Pam and Ollie Olivier and Mary Jean and Elena Piorkowski of Johns Island, SC.

## Texas Chapter

### *Sherrie Randall, Secretary*

Our next upcoming chapter event is March 17th for the 30th annual Jasper Azalea festival. We will be hosting a booth selling some evergreen hybrids we've never sold before as well as selling deciduous azaleas. Buddy Lee will be presenting the City of Jasper with a plaque denoting them as an ASA Azalea City. Chapter President Robert Thau, of Jasper, will accept the award on behalf of the city.

The spring meeting will be held at the home of Charles and Sharon Bradberry in Nacogdoches on March 24th.

## The Conifer Society welcomes you!

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Conifer Society  
P.O. Box 3422  
Crofton, MD 21114-0422

We'll seek input for activities for the year, garden venues throughout east Texas to visit, ways to increase our membership and keep members involved, and look for ways to improve what we do.

**Welcome new members:** Dawn Franks, Bullard and Drake Sacks, The Woodlands, TX.

## Vaseyi Chapter

**Welcomes new member** Larry England, Monterrey, TN.

## At-Large

The ASA welcomes new at-large members from six states:

From Arkansas: Doug Brodie, Batesville; Phyllis Kirtley, Benton; Sue Madison and Bob Stassen, Fayetteville; Terri Waterman, Hot Springs.

From Florida: Kenneth Menke, Tallahassee and Kanon Simmons, Macclenny.

From Georgia: David Prado, Cumming.

From New Jersey: John and Bonnie Patterson, Hamilton Square.

From North Carolina: Mary Griffin, Kim Hainge, Karen Taylor, and Revonda Williams from Robbinsville.

From Tennessee: Helen Bachrach, Marianne Custer, and Randy Stewart from Knoxville and Fred Looper from Crossville.

# Navigating the ASA Membership Database

*By Paul Beck—Treasurer and Assistant Webmaster*

This is the first in a series of articles describing the interactive features of the new ASA website. This series was introduced in the 2017 winter issue of *The Azalean*, and there will be a short article in each issue describing a single feature as outlined in the introduction. This article focuses on the **membership database**.

## Database Usage

The ASA membership database is a key component of the society records. Apart from the obvious purpose of keeping track of our membership, the database also provides recording of dues payments by our members, and provides support to the treasurer for the process of creating and sending out renewal notices. It is also used to generate the data for mailing of *The Azalean*, and thus needs to be kept accurate.

## Restricted Access

It is important to note that our membership data is kept private by requiring a website login in order to view the data. Login access is available **only to current ASA members**. This provides a level of privacy to our data, but members can further restrict access to portions of their data (address, phone, email) so that this information is only accessible to the website administrators or key persons who have been granted special access to perform their society role (such as membership chairperson).

## Searching

A key feature of the new online membership database is the ability to search for members using several different search criteria. The default display is your chapter membership. If you do not know the chapter of the member for which you are searching, change the **Chapter** pick list to "**ALL Chapters**". Search criteria include **Last Name**, **First Name**, **Chapter**, **State** or **Country** and **Expired**. These terms may be combined in any fashion. The Name search fields assume that the searched-for member's name starts with the indicated characters. If you are looking for some characters anywhere in the name, use a "%" to start the search string.

## Data Exporting

After getting search results, you may wish to export the data to Excel in order to further sort, print or process the data. Exported data is to be used for non-commercial use only. In order to perform the export, click the "**Custom export**" button under the **Chapter** pick list.



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