

**Debut Announcement**  
**Azalea Society of America**  
**2022 National Convention**  
**March 10–13, 2022 • Thursday–Sunday**  
**Lafayette, LA**  
**(Mardi Gras is March 1, 2022)**

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*“Le Sentier et Les Jardins Historiques des Azalées de Lafayette”*

**“Un Mardi Gras de Fleurs”**

*“Lafayette’s Historic Azalea Trail & Gardens”*

**“A Floral Mardi Gras”**

The Louisiana Chapter and Lafayette’s Azalea Trail chairperson Denise Lanclos are planning the ASA Convention, scheduled for March 10–13, 2022 (Thursday – Sunday). The convention will take place in Lafayette and the Acadiana Area – the heart of Louisiana’s Cajun Country. We will have an azalea plant sale, along with other exciting plants, educational speakers, historical trolley or coach tours of the trail and gardens along with much more. For a preview of Lafayette’s trail please visit [www.azaleatrail.org](http://www.azaleatrail.org).

Some of the scheduled tours will be as follows:

- The Alexandre Mouton House & Gardens, an 1800 circa historic home & museum. The Gardens have been revitalized with beautiful azaleas, camellias, and other southern plants. The University Cypress Lake and surrounding blocks lined with majestic live oaks planted at the turn of the 20th century encompass an area which the university has revitalized with more than 300 azaleas.

- The Oil Center Cultural & Historic District features a recent revitalization of the “Million Dollar” road; Coolidge Boulevard with ‘George Lindley Taber’ and ‘Mrs. G. G. Gerbing’ azaleas embraced by ‘Shishi Gashira’ camellias and crape myrtles.

- Lafayette Visitors Center grounds in the Gateway feature a large pond with fish and turtles. The landscape is covered with azaleas, camellias, various irises, crape myrtles, live oaks, Louisiana bald cypress, and native Louisiana wildflowers to give visitors a spectacular view of the gateway.

- Moncus Central Park, a 100-acre development, was previously the University of Louisiana—Lafayette Equestrian Center (The Horse Farm). The park has a beautiful landscape of live oaks, pines, and cypress trees with a dog park, botanical and ravine gardens, wetland boardwalks with diverse ecosystems, mounds and ponds, and forest trails. An Amphitheater and Children’s Tree House are



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being developed this year. In 2020, the Louisiana Chapter partnered with Scenic Lafayette—Azalea Trail, Parish Proud, and local donors to plant a showcase of azalea varieties at the entrance to Moncus park. More at [www.moncuspark.org](http://www.moncuspark.org).

- All Seasons Nursery & Landscaping, located across from Moncus Park is Lafayette’s premier landscaping and nursery company. They are the “go to” nursery for Lafayette’s Azalea Trail plants.
- Rip Van Winkle Gardens at Jefferson Island is 15 acres of semi-tropical gardens nestled among 350-year-old oak trees dripping with moss. Rip’s Rockery is home to the roseate spoonbill birds. Jungle Gardens at Avery Island is a 170-acre semi-tropical garden of azaleas, camellias, and colorful bamboo as well as alligators and snowy egrets.

An optional tour on Sunday, March 13th will include Vermilionville Living History & Folk Life Park with Cajun Music & Dancing. This park features azaleas, native plants and gardens, a na-

tive American area, oaks, and a pond. Historical homes from the area’s first settlers are what make up this living history folk life park. Adjacent to Vermilionville is the Acadian Cultural Center—Jean Lafitte National Historical Park & Preserve that has tours and films in an extensive museum of artifacts. More information at <https://www.nps.gov/jela/new-acadian-cultural-center.htm>.

Hold the date—March 10–13, 2022! Hotel venue details coming soon along with transportation options and registration details. We will highlight featured venues and activities in upcoming issues of *The Azalean* and on our national [www.azaleas.org](http://www.azaleas.org) website.

#### **Coordinators of the Convention:**

- Dr. Allen Owings, President of Louisiana Chapter of the Azalea Society of America, [aowings64@gmail.com](mailto:aowings64@gmail.com)
- Mrs. Denise R. Lanclos, Lafayette’s Azalea Trail Chairperson, [deniselanclos@cox.net](mailto:deniselanclos@cox.net)

	<p><b>AZALEA HILL GARDENS &amp; NURSERY</b></p> <p><b>EVERGREEN AZALEAS</b></p> <p>We grow Glenn Dale, Back Acres, Robin Hill, Satsuki, Huang, Holly Springs and others</p> <p>Request list: email <a href="mailto:ronnie.palmer88@yahoo.com">ronnie.palmer88@yahoo.com</a> or text 870-489-0884</p> <p>1106 S. Evans Road Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71602 Phone (870) 247-1574</p> <p>Visit <a href="http://www.azaleahillgardens-arkansas.com">www.azaleahillgardens-arkansas.com</a></p>	
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