

Society Officer Candidates

Paul Beck—Treasurer

Paul Beck has been a member of Northern Virginia Chapter since 1983. Paul has been very active in that chapter since 2010, as treasurer, webmaster and developer of the chapter's website, and treasurer of the ASA since 2014. He developed the ASA online membership database, the searchable azalea information repository, the online repository for *The Azalean*, all of which he migrated to the new ASA website. He has automated the chapter plant sales and annual auctions with a barcoding sales and inventory control system. In addition, Paul automated the 2016 Williamsburg joint convention plant sale and the 2018 convention plant sale. He retired from the US Air Force in 1984 after 20 years of service and then retired again in 2012 from his second career in the software development industry. Paul works actively in the garden with Carolyn, his wife of 58 years, and they have two children and three grandchildren. He enjoys building and flying remotely controlled model airplanes. Paul holds a PhD in Operations Research and Statistics.

Denise Richard Lanclos—Secretary

Denise Richard Lanclos, a native of Lafayette, Louisiana, and her husband, David Anthony Lanclos, reside in the garden district of Whittington Park. They have two married daughters and two grandchildren. She is a graduate of University of Louisiana at Lafayette with a BA in Accounting and is an active notary public. She worked for Guaranty Bank as a Loan Processor, Customer Service Representative & Trainer where she received several AIB certificates. She has done extensive fundraising, capital projects and benefits administration with the Diocese of Lafayette; serving as the Director of Finance at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist for 17 years. She was the Executive Administrator for the Bishop's Charity Gala during the 1990s; a premier fundraiser for the Lafayette Catholic Charities system. She enjoys gardening, sewing, and cooking. Her motto, "Our Creator gave us this beautiful earth to enrich our humanity." Giving back to her community through beautification is her joyful work during retirement.

She is a Volunteer Travel Counselor and promoter of Lafayette's Historic Azalea Trail. As an active member of Scenic Lafayette, Keep Lafayette Beautiful and President of Preservation Alliance

of Lafayette she advocates for historic and cultural preservation and beautification. She received the "Best in Advocacy" award from the City's Project Front Yard Program. She volunteers as the Azalea Society of America's advertising manager. She is a member of the Louisiana Chapter of ASA and is lead coordinator for the ASA Convention 2022.

Shane Harris—Director

Shane Harris is the County Extension Coordinator for Tallapoosa County, Alabama. His primary area of expertise and professional experience is home horticulture, 4-H youth development, forestry and natural resources, and community & economic development. He has served as Extension educator with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System for over 21 years.

Shane is an Auburn University alumnus where he earned his BS degree in Agricultural Business & Economics in 1998 and Master's of Education Degree in Agricultural Education in 2000.

Shane states his interest in azaleas has passionately grown over the last few years. He collects evergreen and native azaleas for his private garden and recently just started learning about and propagating azaleas. He joined ASA in 2020 to expand his knowledge and to meet fellow azalea enthusiasts.

In 2020, Shane led the revision of the Extension publication "Evergreen Azaleas of Alabama" and recently published a new publication "Native Azaleas for Alabama" this spring 2021. He also coordinated the 2021 "All About Azaleas" Zoom webinar series, which was a local partnership between Alabama Extension and the Alabamense Chapter of ASA.

Shane resides in Dadeville with his wife Susan, his two sons Blake and Clay, and his two golden retriever dogs Aubie and Ranger. His hobbies and interests include admiring the great outdoors, gardening, photography, hunting, sports, and camping. He is also Southern Baptist preacher.

Frank Russenberger—Director

Frank Russenberger attended Arkansas Tech at Russellville for two years and is a graduate of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville with both a BS and MS in Civil Engineering. After graduation, he served eight years in the US Army (Inactive Reserves) Corps of Engineers and was honorably discharged as a Captain.

After 34 years with the Arkansas Highway & Transportation Department (AHTD), Frank retired in July 2008. In 2004, Frank and his wife, Linda, earned certification as Master Gardeners. Subsequently both reached Advanced Master Gardener status and are currently lifetime members of Arkansas Master Gardeners.

After retiring from AHTD in July 2008, Frank was employed as the Arkansas Promotional Director of the Oklahoma/Arkansas Chapter of the American Concrete Paving Association from April 2009 through March 2010 when he returned to retirement to devote more time to his landscape gardening efforts.

Upon retirement, Frank and Linda had opted to stay in Russellville, where they had developed and continued to maintain a fairly extensive garden on their one-acre property. This included a wide variety of plants, mostly perennials and shrubs. Several cultivars of azaleas were included.

Frank and Linda became members of Arkansas Chapter of Azalea Society of America in 2018. In 2019, they made a very difficult decision to abandon their Russellville garden to move to Cherokee Village, AR. They are now located on Lake Thunderbird where they have resumed their efforts to develop an “admirable” garden.

Allen Owings—Director

Allen Owings is a LSU AgCenter Professor Emeritus of Horticulture. While at LSU, Dr. Owings was housed at the AgCenter Botanic Gardens in Baton Rouge (formerly Burden Research Plantation), the Department of Horticulture and the Hammond Research Station in Hammond. He is currently serving as the president of the Louisiana Chapter, Azalea Society of America. Dr. Owings holds degrees in horticulture and plant sciences from Southeastern Louisiana University, Louisiana State University and Mississippi State University. He is currently employed as horticulturist at Clegg’s Nursery in Baton Rouge, LA, and Bracy’s Nursery in Amite, LA, where he works in education, outreach, social media, and new plant production.

A native of Hammond, LA, Dr. Owings now resides there again. He is a life member of the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association and Louisiana Society for Horticultural Research. Dr. Owings belongs to numerous horticulture societies in LA and across the south. He is an active member and former ruling elder at First Presbyterian Church in Hammond. He enjoys gardening, golf, and LSU sports.

Welcome New Members!

The Alabamense Chapter welcomes:

- Roy Redfoot, Phenix City, AL
- Will & Chris Shinn, Opelika, AL

The Ben Morrison Chapter welcomes:

- Michelle & Mark Dean, Landsdowne, PA
- Gavin Locke, Silver Spring, MD

The Central Carolina Chapter welcomes:

- Joel Faircloth, Clemmons, NC

The Louisiana Chapter welcomes:

- Anita Beaumont, Plaquemine, LA
- Lisa L. Boudreaux, Lafayette, LA
- Phyllis & Robert Cornell, Lafayette, LA
- Celia C. Foard, Lafayette, LA
- Leslie Gulliksen, Lafayette, LA
- Douglas Jemison, Lafayette, LA
- Linda Gunter, Forest Hill, LA
- Anita & Rusty Petitjean, Lafayette, LA
- Carolyn Wentworth, Arnaudville, LA
- Babette Werner, Lafayette, LA

The Northern Virginia Chapter welcomes:

- Laura Angle, Springfield, VA
- Jesse Birkenstock, Aldie, VA
- Song Chu, Rockville, MD
- Matthew Silverman, Rockville, MD

New At Large members include:

- William Brown, Patchogue, NY
- Joseph Clark, Calistoga, CA
- Arin Kirkpatrick, Wilmington, DE
- Carmen Mondelli, Haddonfield, NJ
- Kathryn & Douglas Rewerts, Canton, GA
- Richie Steffen, Shoreline, WA
- Rick Peterson, Shoreline, WA
- James Thomas, Ball Ground, GA



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