

# The Spring 1982 Meeting

The American Magnolia Society's annual 1982 spring meeting will be held March 12 through 14 at Lafayette, Louisiana, with some of the events at Opelousas, Louisiana, and Gloster Arboretum in southwest Mississippi. The Society's mid-south Gresham Chapter will be the host organization for the meeting.

Mid-March is normally a balmy season in this part of the deep South and an ideal time for seeing spring flowering magnolias and many other flowering plants. The program takes in tours of the University of Southwest Louisiana campus and that institution's Ira Nelson Horticulture Center at Lafayette, Louisiana; Kenneth Durio's well established Louisiana Nursery and grounds at nearby Opelousas, Louisiana; and the Gloster Arboretum, Gloster, Mississippi, where there are extensive plantings of the exotic magnolia hybrids bred by the late D. Todd Gresham in the 1950s and early 1960s, as well as native ornamental plants.

The 1982 meeting begins with an informal reception and dinner for early arrivals at the Ken Durio home at the nursery in Opelousas from 7-9 p.m., Friday, March 12. The board of directors will hold a meeting there from 9-10 p.m.

On Saturday most of the day's activities will be at the Nelson Center and the USL campus, consisting of tours, contributions of papers and other programs, and a business meeting. A tour of the Louisiana Nursery will follow in the late afternoon, and the banquet, back at the motel, will feature a speaker and slide presentations.

On Sunday morning the group will travel to Gloster Arboretum by car or van for a day of grafting demonstrations and other activities, a catered lunch, and an afternoon tour of the Arboretum. The 1982 meeting will adjourn at 5 p.m. Sunday. Transportation to and from the various points for those who do not drive will be furnished by members who do drive, or by van. Members departing Gloster may choose to go from the arboretum to the airport at Baton Rouge, return to the motel at Lafayette, or go to the Lafayette airport.

The registration fee of \$40 includes dinner Friday, the banquet Saturday evening, catered lunch on Sunday, and local transportation. Those who plan to come should register as early as possible. Checks payable to American Magnolia Society should be mailed to Belle Durio, Route 7, Box 43, Opelousas, Louisiana, 70570.

Motel reservations for the meeting dates of March 12 and 13 must be made by February 26 with the Holiday Inn (North), P.O. Box 90467, Lafayette, Louisiana, 70509, located on I-10 and U.S. Highway 167. The telephone is (318) 233-0003. Single rates are \$43 and doubles \$49 per day plus 7 percent state sales tax. Parking is available. When writing or calling mention the American Magnolia Society, which has reserved 30 rooms.

Those who wish to share a room with a specific person should make reservation requests jointly to the motel. The Lafayette municipal airport is directly south of the motel on Highway 167 and taxi fare to the motel is \$6.75 for one person, \$10 for two. Be sure to go to the Holiday Inn (North), not the

Holiday Inn (South). Call Opelousas 948-3696 if you need a ride to your motel or if you are lost at any time.

Sara Gladney of the Gloster Arboretum says that members who want to stay overnight Sunday (or longer) at Gloster are welcome, but should bring sleeping bags in case she runs out of beds. Tours of 19th century antebellum homes in St. Francisville, Louisiana, and Natchez, Mississippi, are available for those who are interested and have their own transportation. Both are within easy driving distance of Gloster.

The Ira Nelson Horticulture Center is primarily a laboratory for horticulture students, the USL faculty, professional nursery groups, and plant societies. It has greenhouses and a large collection of tropical plants, orchids, bromeliads, cacti, and succulents; a test garden and a large conservatory; and an amaryllis breeding program. All the Society's meetings will be held there on Saturday March 13. The USL campus has a good collection of ornamentals, including many magnolias.

Louisiana Nursery at Opelousas grows over 200 magnolia cultivars, and has many mature, blooming magnolia specimens, along with a collection of native and other plants and greenhouse material. The Durios are at present developing a 56-acre arboretum for the future, with emphasis on magnolias.

Gloster Arboretum is located on 370 acres in southwest Mississippi. It has stands of native magnolias as well as many rare and exotic ones, including several hundred as yet unnamed Gresham hybrids. There are also good collections of American azaleas, Louisiana irises, stewartias, silverbells, dogwoods, Japanese maples, crabapples, hollies, eucalyptus trees, and specimens of pinckneya, oakleaf hydrangea, Franklinia, fringe trees, and *Illicium floridanum*.

## Nurseryman K. Wada Dies

Koichiro Wada, 73, the noted Japanese nurseryman, died on February 13, 1981, of a heart problem. Mr. Wada was a member of the American Magnolia Society and was a pioneer Magnolia breeder dating back several decades.

Tomoo Wada, a son of K. Wada, will now conduct the business and promises to supply the Magnolias of K. Wada to gardeners in other countries. The company's address: Hakoneya Nurseries Inc., 15-14 Minami-Karuizawa, Nishi-Ku, Yokohama, Japan.

## Holly Society Changes

At the spring trustees meeting, conducted in May in Portland, Oregon, the trustees of the Holly Society of America, Inc. voted to split the office of Secretary/Treasurer into two positions.

Bluett Green was to continue in the joint post only until 31 August, 1981. As of 1 September 1981, the new Secretary was to be Mrs. Edward H. Richardson, 304 Northwind Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21204, and the new Treasurer was to be Barton M. Bauers, Sr., former past president of the Society, P.O. Box 126, Mann's Harbor, North Carolina 27953.

Correspondents are urged to note these personnel and address changes and to direct all information requests to the new Secretary, Mrs. E.H. Richardson. Membership applications and other matters of a financial nature should be directed to the new Treasurer, B.M. Bauers, Sr. All manuscripts, and notes intended for publication in the Holly Society of America, Inc. literature and editorial questions should be sent to the Editor, Mrs. E.C. Dudley, 10041 Worrell Avenue, Glenn Dale, Maryland 20769.