

## ASA NEW MEMBERS

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## MINUTES OF THE ASA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

May 6, 1995

William B. McIntosh, *Secretary*

The meeting was called to order by President Malcolm Clark at 11:16pm following the guest lecture by Dr. Michael J. Raupp.

Malcolm thanked the Brookside Gardens Chapter for hosting the convention and announced that the next convention would be sponsored by the Dallas Chapter on April 4-6, 1996.

He reiterated the common recent theme of our declining membership, which currently [May 6, 1995, ed.] is 740. This contrasts with last year's 830 and 897 the year before that. The Society is still financially sound, with current assets of roughly \$40 thousand plus some funds for the Harding Memorial Garden. Our assets grew approximately 6% during the year. However, Malcolm cautioned that the ASA must soon either: (1) stimulate membership growth, (2) reduce the number of **THE AZALEAN** pages, or (3) increase dues. Malcolm calculates the break-even membership at 820, or 80 more members than we currently have. The obvious choice is to recruit more members.

Bob Hobbs thanked Brookside Gardens Chapter President Carol Allen for dedicating proceeds from the silent and live auctions to financing more color in **THE AZALEAN**. He also thanked the Chapter for scheduling a new Convention feature, the Roundtable Discussion on **THE AZALEAN**.

The prize for the best article in **THE AZALEAN** was won by Steve Brainerd, for the article "Designing with Azaleas". Steve donated the money to the color fund. Bob Hobbs announced that certificate for all past

winners of the Best Article award will be available in the near future.

Bob Stelloh thanked the membership for financial and labor support given the George Harding Memorial Garden project. He announced that an Azalea Day is being considered at River Farm for this time next year. Consideration is being given to establishing a trust fund for supplies and maintenance. George Harding's sister recently visited the garden.

Next Malcolm presented the Distinguished Service Award to William C. Miller III. Malcolm announced that, due to the loss of his calligrapher, the award certificate will not be available until a later time.

Bob Stelloh announced the results of the recent election:

- President - Steve Brainerd
- Vice President - Jim Thornton
- Directors At Large:
  - Fred Minch
  - Rosalie Nachman
  - Art Vance

President Brainerd spoke briefly, his major points being that he expects to lead by example and that he will demand performance by the elected Officers and Directors.

Bill Miller closed the meeting by announcing that Roger Brown, who furnished the 1988 convention attendees with specimens of 'Pocono Pink', has done it again. This time the selection was 'Seattle White', described by Bill as a plant with single, semi- and fully-double flowers. Jane Newman was awarded a large specimen.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40pm.

**BEN MORRISON CHAPTER**

Niki Baker, *President*

The Chapter's annual cutting picnic was held on July 16, hosted by Sue and George Switzer. Thirty-one persons attended.

Officers were elected for 1995-1996:

- Niki Baker, President
- Alan Jones, Vice President
- Dale Flowers, Secretary
- Carol Flowers, Treasurer

During the brief business meeting, the possibility of holding an Azalea Show in 1996 was discussed. Several members donated cuttings for other members to choose from, and the Switzers' made their extensive collection available to members for obtaining cuttings. The Chapter members wish to thank Sue and George for hosting this annual event once again this year.

**BROOKSIDE GARDENS CHAPTER**

Carol Allen, *President*

Rod Simmon's presentation at the April meeting on the Winkler Botanical Preserve was a fascinating look at a local nature preserve. The staff of the preserve has done an amazing job of dealing with the maintenance of a natural area in an urban setting. The T-shirts and bags for the convention were previewed. Barbara Bullock's design looked great! Several 'T's' were purchased by members (all the well-dressed ones). The aforementioned hot fashion statements were available for purchase at the June meeting. Thank you Roberta Hagen for the execution of the above items.

**1995 Convention**

The convention was all anyone could have wished for! We were blessed with perfect weather, good food, exciting speakers, wonderful plants to buy, good company, and lots

of "azalea talk". Thanks to all who made it work! Bill Miller, Bill Johnson, Jean Cox, Dottie Murphree, Mary Rutley, Tina Kelley, Barbara Bullock, Roberta and Gordon Hagen, Bill McIntosh, Lou Aronica, Ted Munter, Dick West, Andy, Ruth and Roberta Adams, Phil Normandy and the Brookside Gardens staff, Debbie and Mike White, Carolyn Beck, Bobbi McCeney, Lee Payne, Mary Ann Jarvis and a cast of thousands!

Good things happen at conventions. Steve Brainerd won the 'Best Article' award for his piece on design. Our own Bill Miller received the 'Distinguished Service' award for his years of service. The auction Friday night netted over \$600.00 for the new color picture fund for **THE AZALEAN**.

**Landon School Festival and Azalea Show**

An unprecedented number of entries (310 entries--the most ever and 19 exhibitors) was the high point of the show this year. Perfect weather preceded the event so most sprays were in excellent condition. The judges had some tough choices to make. The Best in Show was awarded to Charlie Evans for his entry of 'Osaraku'. The Sweepstakes Award for the highest number of points was won by Bill Miller. All of our overworked volunteers (Tina Kelley, Janet Miller, Bill Miller, Bobbi McCeney, Buck Clagget, Frank Sharpnack, Gi Adams, Dorothy Nowers, Connie Simmons, Bill Johnson and Hillwood Museum, Bob and Denise Stelloh, Bill McIntosh, Mike White, Emile Deckert, Bob Stewart, and Bob Hobbs) receive a heartfelt thank you! Next year wouldn't you like to see your name listed here?

**Cultural Calendar**

Well the push is over. The majority of the azaleas have bloomed and now the roses, peonies, and iris