

# Society News

## Historic Documents Needed by Your Secretary

John B. Brown —  
Cleveland, South Carolina

This was my second convention and I found the same congenial, easygoing group in Asheville that appeared in Charleston. Charleston was a great convention (orchestrated by Buddy Lee), so it was easy to be friendly. We got lucky in Asheville and had no major boo-boos. It was easy to be friendly in Asheville, especially in the setting chosen for us by Bob Stelloh and the Convention Committee. However, the group that I met in Asheville would have been friendly in almost any given situation. It is a nice group and I feel privileged to be a part of the party. To earn my place in the group, I hope to contribute my talents as your Secretary for the next several years and trust that you will call on me if I can help your membership in the Society to be more enjoyable in any way. I call on each of you to balance the equation and contribute something of value (an article in **THE AZALEAN** or cookies at the next chapter meeting) to balance your books with the Society.

As the incoming Secretary, I would like to make my first (of many) requests of the members and leaders of the Society. In taking over the office, I found that many of the records of the ASA have not been collected and passed along. If you have, or know who does have, any significant records please contact me and let us decide how best to handle them. I am looking for documents—signed or otherwise—that will track the activities and progress of the Society, especially photographs, news articles, and what-  
nots. This group is expanding when others are shrinking. Somebody is doing something right, and we should record the events that brought us to this point.

### Treasurer's Report — 2000 Sources and Uses of Funds

Income (Sources)	2000 Totals	1999 Totals
The Azalean .....	\$ 2,048.52	\$ 2,941.98
Membership Dues .....	17,982.00	19,893.00
Gifts .....	3,580.00	1,433.00
Interest .....	2,234.17	1,951.86
Other Income .....	4,964.63	4,038.50
<b>Total Income .....</b>	<b>\$ 30,809.32</b>	<b>\$ 30,258.34</b>
Expenses (Uses)		
Awards and Mem. ....	503.60	111.85
<b>The Azalean .....</b>	<b>19,818.28</b>	<b>18,544.93</b>
Dues Expense .....	2,301.53	3,224.21
Member Roster .....	914.58	700.33
Other Expense .....	9,976.29	3,661.95
Other Postage .....	995.67	618.98
<b>Total Expenses .....</b>	<b>\$ 34,509.95</b>	<b>\$ 26,864.25</b>
<b>Income-Expenses .....</b>	<b>\$ -3,700.63</b>	<b>\$ 3,394.09</b>
<b>Net Assets .....</b>	<b>\$ 58,039.74</b>	<b>\$ 59,468.38</b>

R. T. Stelloh, Treasurer 8/24/01

## Membership Year Changes

Too many of our new members join for one year and never renew their membership. To induce more of these new members to renew, the Board of Directors recently voted to extend the membership of new members joining on or after May 1 for an extra year. The

thinking behind this is to give the new members enough time to properly appreciate their benefits of membership before they get their renewal notice. This extended year has been granted to every new member who joined on or after May 1, 2001.

## VISIT ITALY WITH YOUR ASA FRIENDS!

My name is Piero Sambucci, and I am an ASA member, specializing in nursery grown azaleas, camellias, and rhododendrons. I live in Velletri, a small city 25 miles from the center of Rome and located in the famed Alban Hills formed by an ancient volcano, now extinct. Two beautiful crater lakes are 10 miles from Velletri, and 20 miles to the south lies the Mediterranean Sea with its wonderful beaches. Tivoli is only an hour's drive away with the Villa d'Este, famous for its gardens and fountains. Two hours away are Naples, Pompeii, and Sorrento, and Florence is three hours away.

I propose to rent my house from June through February for two-week intervals to members of the ASA and their friends. To make your vacation relaxed and comfortable I will provide you with continental breakfast and dinner, plus transportation with a van every day of your vacation. I will meet you at the airport when you arrive, and from then on I will look after you, take you to cities, parks and gardens of central Italy. At home in the evenings you will find dinner ready (Italian food). You will get the real taste of Italy.

Form a group of four or five and come to the country of art and natural beauty. For a brochure contact Piero Sambucci, C/DA Acqua Palomba 2, 00049 Velletri, Roma, Italy. Tel.: 0329 628 74 74; Fax: 06 963 50 77; Email: psambucci@allnet.it