

# Society News

## Minutes of the ASA National Meeting—May 3, 2003 Celebrating a Quarter of a Century Happy Birthday, ASA

President Joe Schild opened the National Meeting of the Azalea Society of America at 7:43 pm on May 3, 2003, in the Ballroom of the Clarion Hotel in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Over a hundred people joined the celebration by singing "Happy Birthday, ASA" and sharing the birthday cake as Joe read the roll of past presidents. The past presidents who were in attendance—Art Vance, Bill Bode, and Bob Hobbs—helped cut and distribute the cake. For pictures of the convention go to: <http://www.pbase.com/azaleasociety/asa>

President Schild announced the formation of a new chapter of the ASA. John Migas and Tad Dauksza have met the requirements and will lead the Lake Michigan Chapter. Outgoing president Schild and incoming president Robert (Buddy) Lee signed the charter and the secre-

tary signed and imprinted the charter with the seal of the Society. John Migas (chapter president pro-tem) expressed his appreciation and announced plans for the 2005 National Convention in Michigan. Yes, they have azaleas in Michigan, and tulips, too.

Joe Schild announced the decision of the Board of Directors that Society dues will not be raised at this time. The Board feels that while the budget shows a deficit for 2003, it is a manageable event, and that other avenues can be addressed to correct the situation.

The results of the election of officers and directors were announced. Elected to the various offices were:

President: Robert (Buddy) Lee  
Vice-President: William McDavit  
Secretary: John Brown  
Directors:  
Leslie Nanney  
John Migas  
Dr. Joe Coleman

The winner of the award for Best Article in *The Azalean* for 2002 was Marian Klenk for "Along the Garden Path: Memories of My Grandfather, Frederic Paddock Lee and His Azalea Garden."

The group was treated to a presentation by Swami Bob McWhorter and his Assistant Swami Bob Hobbs and trainee swami Joe Miller who all predicted that the Ben Morrison Chapter would host the 2004 National Convention near Annapolis, Maryland, on May 6-9. The swamis went way out on a limb and predicted that the convention would have Great Tours with short bus rides and Great Speakers.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and passed at 8:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Brown, Secretary

Below: John Brown affixes the official ASA seal on the charter for the new Lake Michigan Chapter. Proudly watching are (left to right) Tadeusz Dauksza and John Migas, new ASA president Buddy Lee, and immediate past president Joe Schild.  
(Photo by Bob Stelloh)



Above: President Joe Schild and past presidents Bill Bode, Bob Hobbs, and Art Vance, cut the cake to celebrate the Society's 25th anniversary. (Photo by Bob Stelloh)

