



Newsletter 4/2008
16 May 2008

NEWSLETTER

The Second Annual General Meeting and National Congress of TASA that took place in the Cape during 9 and 10 May 2008 was very successful. A new Executive Committee was also elected comprising of a National Chairman, National Vice Chairman and Treasurer elected from the Chairpersons of the various Regions. The above elected persons, together with the Executive Officer form the Executive Committee.

Our sincere appreciation is expressed to our members, sponsors and speakers whose contribution ensured the success of the Congress and AGM. It is a privilege to be able to continue on the sound foundation created. TASA can without doubt develop into a powerful voice for the Industry.

THE NEWLY ELECTED NATIONAL COMMITTEE



Richard Nel (Cape), **Hennie van Rensburg : National Vice Chairman** (North West),
Lana de Jager (Gauteng & Limpopo North), Bertus Nieuwenhuis (Northern Cape & OFS),
John Smith: National Chairman (Natal) and **David Hoffman : Treasurer** (Mpumalanga & Limpopo East)

NEWLY ELECTED REGIONAL TEAMS

Natal:	John Smith	Biggarsberg Thatchers	Chairman
	Anthony Carte	Country Craft Thatching	Vice Chairman
	Tinus Fick	Thatchmaster (Durban)	Secretary

As Mr. John Smith was elected National Chairman, the chair for this Region will be taken by Mr. Anthony Carte. Mr. Tinus Fick will be his Deputy and a new Secretary will be elected at the next Regional meeting.

North West:	Hennie van Rensburg	Maranata Grasdakke	Representative
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Approval was given for the creation of this new Region. Mr. Hennie van Rensburg will be the Regional Chairman and a Vice Chairman and Secretary will be elected at their first Regional meeting.

COMPETITIONS

(Arch Wood Protection SA (Pty) Ltd was again the main sponsor for the various competitions)



1. PHOTO COMPETITION

We congratulate the following winners on their achievement. A total of forty one entries were received.

<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>WON BY</u>	<u>PRIZES</u>
• Most aesthetic structure :	<i>THATCH-IT</i>	R3 000
• Largest single thatched roof	<i>MARANATA GRASDAKKE</i>	R3 000
• Funniest thatch photo / video :	<i>LUCAS QUALITY THATCHERS</i>	R1 000



Protea Hotels: Nkolo Spa (Floor surface: 4 838 sq m)
(Roof surface: 7 257 sq m)



Thanda private game reserve main lodge

2. NATIONAL THATCH ROOF CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION

<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>WON BY</u>	<u>PRIZES</u>
1. Best pole structure	<i>THATCH-IT</i>	R4 000
2. Most aesthetic pole structure	<i>BIGGARSBERG THATCHERS</i>	R4 000



Best pole structure (Slope 45 degrees)



Most aesthetic pole structure. (Slope 50 degrees)

Photos of the competition, AGM and National Congress will be available on the website.

ITEMS OF INTEREST RESULTING FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

• **VOLUNTARY ACCREDITATION / CERTIFICATION**

Approval has been given to continue with the investigation to implement the above. It has been suggested that guidelines be drawn up by an independent auditors firm i.e. SATAS or ITC who have already a process in place.

Accreditation / certification is becoming more and more of paramount importance through the public and Trade in general demanding that TASA ensures that its members guarantees quality workmanship. Another important aspect of it is that the shortage of manpower will be curtailed through training as HIV has a devastating effect on trained workers.

- **AMMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

It has been decided that the National Chairman, National Vice Chairman or Regional Chairman's term of office should **not extend beyond two consecutive years, in the same position.**

Example: A person in the position of National **Deputy** Chairman for two consecutive years may be elected as **National** Chairman but **cannot be re-elected** as National **Deputy** Chairman for a further period of one year.

- **MEMBERSHIP**

TASA must increase its numbers of Associate members such as Engineers and Architects as specification requirements are becoming more severe regarding pole construction and rational design. Expertise on these matters is scarce.

It has been proposed that the National Thatch Roof Construction Competition be extended to include the Engineering and Architectural Faculties of Universities.

- **AMMENDMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP ENTRY REQUIREMENTS.**

The integrity of TASA must be protected to ensure the relevancy of the Institution. Requirements for Membership admission will be amended as follows:

- Evidence must accompany the submission of a prospective member that he has been a thatch roof contractor for at least two years
- A probation period of six months will apply before permanent membership will be gained. The proviso being that no complaints being brought against the aspirant member during this period.
- **In the event of the prospective member not being a thatch contractor for two years, the necessary experience must first be gained before temporary membership will be considered.**

TASA invites prospective members lacking the two years experience, to attend TASA meetings and workshops to gain knowledge re specification requirements and the application thereof. They can even do a mentorship with a contractor with extensive experience.

- **NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

The National Committee was tasked to investigate the use of polypropylene twine in thatch roofing as well as the new specification requirement for metal sways including the installation of lightning protectors when metal sways are used.

The new SANS 10400 (National Building Regulations) will be made available for two months during June/July to allow for public comment. Members will be advised when it becomes available as well as the comment rendered by TASA.

The National Committee must focus on the vision and mission of TASA and not get tied up in commercial issues of the Trade.

The next meeting of the National Committee will be held on Wednesday 11 June 2008 at 09h00. The venue will be the TASA office in Centurion.

BLACK GOLF SHIRTS EMBROIDERED WITH THE TASA LOGO

Golf shirts of good quality embroidered with the TASA logo can be ordered from the TASA office at R130 plus postage.



PARTICIPANTS OF THE NATIONAL THATCH ROOF CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION

BIGGARSBERG THATCHERS
THATCHSCAPES
THATCHSURE
THEUNISSEN THATCHING
MICHAEL VAN ZYL & WILLEM PRINSLOO
THATCH-IT

Mike Hull (Principle Judge: Hull Consulting Engineers) sits in front and
Gerrit Steyn (Judge: KLS Consulting Engineers) last person on the right hand side in the back

Comondale Poles sponsored the golf shirts of the participants and judges of the National Thatch Roof Construction Competition.

Other sponsors were:

Uni-Cord Industriale
Ricky Ridge Treated Poles
Diggersrest Farm
Woodline
Scotmar
Flintstones Houtwerke Bk



Kind regards

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