

the 2003 ASA national convention in Atlanta, and the Vaseyi Chapter donated \$3,000 from the 2008 convention in Asheville, North Carolina. They set an excellent precedent. Such gifts are completely voluntary on the part of our chapters. Be sure to raise and support the idea of earmarking a part of your proceeds when your chapter hosts a convention—or to donate any other excess chapter funds to the foundation. Money sitting in a chapter treasury does little good, while it can do a lot of good in the Azalea Research Foundation.

Making a donation in honor of a loved one or friend who has died is a time-honored tradition, and helps to keep them alive in your memory and the memory of others. Twenty-one memorial gifts were made starting in 2003, first in honor of **Augie Kehr**, and then in honor of **Dick Brooks**, **Ian Donovan**, **Bob Barry**, and **Denise Stelloh**, for a total amount of \$3,450. The average amount was \$164, and the median (as many gifts were bigger as were smaller) amount was \$50. This is an excellent way for every member to participate in the foundation in a modest yet meaningful way.

When **Bob Stelloh** was treasurer, no interest payments were made to the Foundation based on its value. Instead, the money had been commingled with other ASA funds and earned interest for the ASA. When **Dan Krabill** became treasurer, he more correctly began making annual interest payments to the foundation based on its year-end value, although it was not yet officially sanctioned by the Board of Directors. Interest payments were made for 2007 and 2008 totaling \$1,502.

Eventually, as the foundation grows, we plan to make research grants only from the interest earned. Until the foundation grows enough to make that possible, the committee will fund some grants from the principal to “get the ball rolling,” even though that will delay being able to fund grants only from the interest earned. That makes it even more important for you to support the foundation now, to help it grow.

An honorarium is a token payment given to speakers as thanks for their presentation. A number of those payments were donated to the foundation by speakers, for a total of \$800. While few of us give presentations, it is an excellent precedent that so many of our more talented members have decided to make their thank you payments do double duty in this way.

Several members liked the idea of an Azalea Research Foundation even before it became official, and donated a total of \$110 to show their support for the concept of azalea research.

The Azalea Research Foundation is now a reality, thanks to the efforts of its committee and our farsighted Board of Directors. Now it is the job of each of us to support the Azalea Research Foundation with our money—to make azalea research a reality as well. If you’ve read this far, you must be interested, so mail a check today in care of Jim Thornton, 884 June Drive S.W., Conyers GA 30093. You may also contact him by phone at 770-483-1593 or by e-mail at jimpatsy@comcast.net.

New Members

Brookside

James Rieden
104 Bishop Dr.
Silver Spring, MD 20905

Tri-State

Kris Perry
3166 Valleybrook Ct
Newburgh, IN 47630

Vaseyi

Laura Johnson
Bartlett Tree Research Lab
13768 Hamilton Road
Charlotte, NC 28278-7213

Beverly & Luther Middleton

216 Park Lane
Hendersonville, NC 28791

Thomas & Teri Hudson Wright

212 Old Hwy 20
Alexander, NC 28701

At Large

Gay Austin
405 Marion Avenue
McComb, MS 39648-2709

Vernon Bush
2116 Southpark Blvd
Huntsville, AL 35803

Ron Klingaman
1127 Osage Drive
Stillwater, OK 74075

Regina Mullen
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Yarmouth Port, MA 02675-0725

Chen Nien-Chou
1F, No. 4, Lane 10, Yung-jen Rd
Yung-he City, Tapei County,
234 Taiwan

Harrell's Nursery
Winfred Harrell
3315 English Road
Plant City, FL 33567

Dana Ressler
852 Conowingo Rd
Conowingo, MD 21918

M. Isabel Sprenger
Casilla 124
Quillota, 228000, Chile



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