

seconded. Malcolm Clark gave a convincing argument for the increase, comparing it to increases in the Consumer Price Index. Very little discussion ensued, and the membership approved the increase by voice vote. Bob Hobbs then handed out quantities of newly-printed ASA membership brochures, noting that the Dallas Chapter had paid for the printing and urged members to make good use of them, since they will become obsolete at the end of the year. Steve Brainerd announced the other dues increases approved by the Board, to wit: Contributing from \$30 to \$50, Sustaining from \$60 to \$100, Endowment from \$100 to \$200, and Life from \$300 to \$500. He also introduced the customary rooted cutting. This year's choice is the native *R. oblongifolium*, the Texas Azalea.

The Society's Distinguished Service Award was presented in absentia to Glenn and Marjorie Taylor by Malcolm Clark. Glenn served as Treasurer for years and Marge as Membership Chairperson.

It was announced that the next convention would be held in Atlanta and be hosted by the Oconee Chapter. With that, the annual meeting and the convention were adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
William B. McIntosh  
Secretary

#### Report of the Public Information Committee for 1996

William C. Miller III, *Chairman*

For the period beginning May 1, 1995, and ending April 30, 1996, I submit the following report. Fifty-six requests for information were received from 24 states, two Canadian provinces (British Columbia and Ontario), and three foreign (non-North American) countries (Colombia, Uruguay, and England).

The most requests for information came from the state of Virginia (6) with Maryland (5) following close behind. May of 1995 was the busiest with eight letters received while August and September of 1995 were least busy with only two letters received. Again, my thanks to the nurseries who favored me with their catalogs and inventory lists. Many of the requests for information are from people who are seeking assistance in locating particular cultivars. □

#### IN MEMORY

It is with great sadness that we learn of the death of Jim Howard, who died of a heart attack on January 23, 1996 while vacationing in Florida. Jim has been a loyal member of the Northern Virginia Chapter and just a few years ago had the chapter to his home to see his gardens.

With regret we also report the death of Reid Denis on April 15, 1996 at 81 years of age in Haverford, Pennsylvania. He was a former resident of Great Falls, Virginia. He was an expert on azaleas and rhododendrons, and was a member of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Azalea Society of America from 1979 until 1991. □

#### Chapter Achievement

Following is a list of Chapter membership numbers as of May 5, 1996, and new members for 1996:

	Members	
	Total	New
Ben Morrison	30	2
Brookside Gardens	129	8
Dallas	55	10
Louisiana	33	7
Northern Virginia	68	1
Oconee	84	15
Richmond Virginia	41	3
Tri-State	22	1

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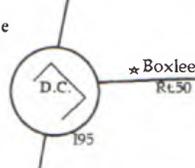
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