

## LEAVING A LIVING LEGACY

Whether visiting the burial plot or columbarium of a loved one, or sitting or walking with or without one's pet under the coolness of the shade trees, or pushing a baby in a stroller, or walking alongside a toddler on a tricycle, or sitting at the pond to watch the butterflies and dragonflies as they are serenaded by frogs, or jogging along the paths, or attending a funeral or the summer church services at the chapel, or viewing the many shapes and styles of the memorial markers, or enjoying the many varieties of trees and of bird life, the Charles Baber Cemetery is a place of serenity, comfort, and peacefulness. It offers a feeling of contentment, a wonderment of the beauty of nature, a sense of the small pleasures of life, and perhaps even a closeness to God.

Whatever it is that draws us to the garden cemetery, the beauty of it is meant to be shared not only by us today, but for the next generations to come. It is for the children, who now use it as a crossover between home and school, to bring their children and their grandchildren to visit or to pass through on their way to school. It is our need to preserve this communion of nature and of life and death for future generations that has encouraged us to create an endowment fund. Thanks to a kind and generous bequest of \$161,000 in 2006 from Kathryn Speacht, an endowment was created through the Schuylkill Area Community Foundation for the Charles Baber Cemetery. Since 2006, with the basket and gift card raffle sales from Baber Day, with the proceeds from Andrew Matta's *Book of Remembrance*, from annual gifts from friends of the cemetery, and from the transfer of small trusts from a large bank in the community, the endowment has doubled. Additionally, in the fall of 2012, the Baber Cemetery was blessed with a generous endowment gift of \$100,000 from an elderly plot owner. This money was also placed with the Schuylkill Area Community Foundation for the Baber Cemetery. While the principal can not be touched, the two endowments should generate over \$18,000 in annual interest income. Our goal is to continue to increase the endowment account to an amount that will enable us to cover our annual expenses of maintaining the grounds as a garden park and as a cemetery.

Please help us to preserve this garden cemetery for future generations to use and enjoy by making a charitable contribution to Schuylkill Area Community Foundation, 216 S. Centre St., Pottsville, PA, 17901, for the Charles Baber Cemetery Preservation Trust. Mark the check for "the Charles Baber Cemetery." We are a non-profit and your donation is a charitable contribution. A form has been provided for your convenience. You will receive an acknowledgement from the Foundation and from the Baber Cemetery. We are deeply grateful for all contributions made to the Baber Cemetery's endowment account through the Schuylkill Area Community Foundation.

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### **Schuylkill Area Community Foundation for the Charles Baber Cemetery Preservation Trust**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of check: \$ \_\_\_\_\_