

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

MONDAY MORNING, 29 OCTOBER, 2007

The 32nd Annual Meeting of the International Plant Propagators' Society-Southern Region of North America convened at 7:45 am at the Chattanooga Marriott, Chattanooga, Tennessee, with President Kay Phelps presiding.

PRESIDENT KAY PHELPS: President Phelps welcomed everyone to Chattanooga, Tennessee, for the 32nd Annual Meeting of the International Plant Propagators' Society – Southern Region of North America. She thanked Local Site Committee Chair Dr. Donna Fare and her committee for the long hours in arranging the excellent tours, hotel, other planning activities, and all their attention to detail. She encouraged all students, new members, and perspective new members to attend the 3rd annual reception prior to the banquet and auction, so they could catch the uniqueness and spirit of the I.P.P.S. that makes it special — “to Seek and Share.” Phelps also encouraged all members to make new members and attendees feel welcome, share with them and seek from them. She also thanked Program Chair and First Vice-President Dr. Patricia Knight for the excellent program and slate of speakers she assembled.

LOCAL SITE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DR. DONNA FARE: Chairman Fare welcomed everyone to Chattanooga. She mentioned that she and her committee had been planning for this meeting for some time and that it was an honor to have the I.P.P.S.-S.R.N.A. come to Chattanooga to meet and tour Tennessee nurseries. She thanked her local site committee for all of their hard work and dedication: Bill Boyd, Frank Collier, Benji Moore, Sandy Reed, Milton Schaefer, and Jessica Smith. She also thanked her auction committee: Sandy Reed, Elliott Hallum, and Benji Moore. She thanked Wilbur Mull for auctioneering. She thanked the sponsors for their donations to make the meeting possible. She gave an overview of the tours, banquet, and auction in the evening and Question Box to follow on Tuesday night.

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN DR. PATRICIA KNIGHT: Chairman Knight welcomed all members, guests, and students. She thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve them, and then reviewed the scheduled program. The Question Box was scheduled for Tuesday evening to be co-chaired by Dr. Charles Gilliam and Bill Turk. She thanked Dr. Glenn Fain for his audio and video efforts. She encouraged the membership to submit posters for next year's meeting. She encouraged the membership to welcome and introduce themselves to the I.P.P.S. International delegation, with James Gilbert of the I.P.P.S.-S.R.N.A., who is serving as International President.

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT JAMES GILBERT: President Gilbert remarked that it was an honor to serve as International President of the I.P.P.S. He thanked the I.P.P.S.-S.R.N.A. for being such excellent hosts. In particular, he thanked Fred Garrett and Eelco Tinga for all of their hard work organizing and serving as tour coordinators and hosts during the 2-week tour that started from Washington, D.C. Moderator Dr. Wayne McLaurin then introduced the first speaker, Tom Saunders.