

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

MONDAY MORNING, 9 OCTOBER, 2000

The Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the International Plant Propagators' Society Southern Region of North America convened at 7:45 AM at the Holiday Inn Chesapeake, Chesapeake, Virginia with President Bill Barr presiding.

PRESIDENT BILL BARR: President Barr welcomed everyone to Chesapeake, Virginia for the Twenty-fifth Annual I.P.P.S. Southern Region of North America meeting. He shared some historical information about the 50-year-old Society of the I.P.P.S. He remarked that a group of 75 men set down in Cleveland, Ohio in 1951 and decided that something had to be done about sharing knowledge and information in the area of plant propagation. He reflected on what these leaders had in mind when they set up the organization — and 50 years later how viable we are and how close we are in adhering to the principles they laid down in establishing a professional society of horticulturists to share knowledge in the field of plant propagation. They did a marvelous job! Some of you will recognize the following names: Jim Wells was the first President, L.C. Chadwick the first Vice-President, Ed Scanlon Secretary-Treasurer. The organizing committee consisted of Bill Snyder, John Siebenthaler, Peter Zorg, Richard Filmore, Rodger Pease, F.L. O'Rourke, I.E. Ilgenfritg, and Roy Nordine. The concept of sharing propagation secrets as a means of strengthening the industry as a whole was revolutionary. They decided that something had to be done and they did it. With time the I.P.P.S. motto became to "Seek and to Share".

Barr then focused on the formation of the Southern Region of North America. The first meeting was held 25 years ago in Mobile, Alabama. There were 170 people in attendance at the first conference. The enthusiasm and the number of people attending showed that there was a definite interest in the establishment of the 6th I.P.P.S. region. John Machen was the moderator at that first meeting. Charles Parkerson was the First President. To help explain the I.P.P.S. organization, two people from other regions came to that first meeting. They were Bill Curtis of the Western Region and Jim Wells of the Eastern Region. They shared the topic: The I.P.P.S.: What is it? Barr then asked all the members currently in the audience who were at the 1st meeting in Mobile, Alabama to please stand. Barr acknowledged that those people standing had the foresight to help us become the region that we are today. He asked the general membership to spend time one-on-one during the meeting, recognizing these original members for their contributions and efforts in establishing our region.

Barr went on to mention that today the I.P.P.S. has nearly 3000 members in eight regions around the world. Those regions are the: Eastern Region, North America, Western Region, Great Britain and Ireland, New Zealand, Australia, Southern Region of North America, Scandinavia, and Japan. New regions are being organized in South America, South Africa, and parts of Central and Eastern Europe. This international membership gives the Society a wealth of plant propagation expertise not available through any other organization. Members represent businesses from small firms to the largest commercial nurseries in the world. Members also include academics, and representatives from botanic gardens and arboreta. This cross section strengthens the group as a whole through the recognition that everyone has

something to share and something to learn. He went on to remark that we come here today for the purpose of learning about what other people are doing in propagation and their nurseries and to exchange ideas. Barr then turned over the meeting to Program Chairman Eelco Tinga and complemented Tinga for the outstanding program and speakers he assembled for the meeting. Tinga called on Local Site Chairman Bill Daughtry.

LOCAL SITE CHAIRMAN BILL DAUGHTRY: Chairman Daughtry welcomed everyone to Chesapeake. He hoped that all would have a good time and that everyone would gain a lot from the tours. He remarked that he and his Local Site Committee have worked hard in preparation of this meeting and were glad and proud to be hosting the I.P.P.S.-Southern Region of North America (I.P.P.S.-S.R.N.A.). He remarked that there is no other organization that they think more highly of than the I.P.P.S.-S.R.N.A. It is the driving force of what we do in our nurseries, and he hoped all in attendance would gain as much from the meetings as he does. He then reviewed the planned tour activities for Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN EELCO TINGA: Chairman Tinga also welcomed everyone to Chesapeake for the 25th Annual Meeting of the I.P.P.S.-S.R.N.A. Tinga then thanked Bill Daughtry and his Local Site Committee for the exciting, well-hosted nursery tours. He remarked on last night's poster presentations, which was a first for the region, and the excellent grafting exhibitions that also took place. He urged everyone to write questions for the Question Box. He then invited Stewart Chandler to talk about his program for next year in Houston, Texas. Chandler asked for the memberships' input for next year's meeting. He remarked that this program is the members program and is based on the comments, suggestions, and ideas received from the general membership. Tinga then asked the speakers to give their papers and disks to Editor Fred Davies. He asked the founding members of the I.P.P.S.-S.R.N.A. to please assemble after the first morning session for pictures to be taken. He then introduced Kevin Gantt to moderate the first morning session.