

an additional garden area known as Three Springs. Both Lawai-Kai and the latter will one day become part of the Pacific Tropical Botanical Gardens.

When joined with the Allerton Gardens the Pacific Garden will consist of some 450 acres, with the main area devoted to research and education and the Allerton Gardens to beauty and garden design. In order to preserve the bay, research studies will also include marine plants. The Garden will then extend from below sea level through the Lawai Valley back for over 1½ miles. It will truly become a great garden for a great nation.

## **A HISTORY OF IPPS MEMBER SHARING**

RALPH B. SHUGERT

*John Zelenka Evergreen Nursery  
Grand Haven, Michigan 49417*

For the benefit of the guests in the audience this morning, the motto of the IPPS is "To Seek and To Share", and all members adhere to this creed. In discussing any topic, the origin is always quite fascinating. When one reviews the Proceedings of the first Plant Propagators' Society, held on November 8-9, 1951, in Cleveland, Ohio, there are some interesting words presented by several important people relative to the formation of our Society. Words which the late Ed Scanlon wrote are certainly appropriate today. I particularly enjoyed one sentence in his opening statement, "no man should ever entertain the thought that he is omnipotent". This, of course, was one man's view of the interchange of ideas which has made this Society the success that it is today.

Several people showed a tremendous amount of foresight in those early years of the 1950's. For example, the committee which was appointed to draw up the Constitution and By-Laws, consisted of three scientists, three nurserymen, and three active plant propagators. With us today at this meeting is a gentleman who was appointed to that committee; he is none other than our illustrious International Secretary-Treasurer, William Snyder. Bill Snyder, in 1951 through today, has certainly shared with all IPPS members.

Another gentleman, well known to all of us, was extremely active in not only the philosophy of the Eastern Region but later instrumental in the regional and chapter development which we have today. That gentleman was the first speaker of the formal program on November 8, 1951, speaking on the

topic, "The Plant Propagator — the Basis of Our Industry"; he was, of course, James S. Wells. Many comments which Jim Wells stated on that November snowy day in Cleveland, was the importance of the plant propagator as a professional and definitely as a craftsman within our industry. Jim was very strong in those days on using the word Guild and, in fact, he suggested that a Guild of Plant Propagators be established following the century-old Guild organizations in Europe. I would dare say that Jim's United Kingdom background allowed the word Guild to flow smoothly from his lips. One point he mentioned throughout his talk was this: requirements for full membership, after a practical experience period and a high standard of integrity, are a "ready willingness to freely share knowledge and skills with other members". So here in the early days of the Society, we have two gentlemen who were saying the same thing but in different words.

The founding of the Western Region is a history within itself. For the edification of our new members and guests, and to recall pleasant memories of the older members of the Society, a committee was appointed from the Eastern Region and that committee met at Asilomar, California on October 14, 15, and 16, in 1960, being the organizational meeting of what would become the Western Region of the IPPS. At that organizational meeting, there were about 150 people in attendance and, I am sure, that several people in the room this morning fondly recall that organizational meeting. Again, we had a keynote address at that meeting by a gentleman previously mentioned, Jim Wells. Dick Fillmore chaired this Eastern Region committee and, in his words, "We can give you the benefit of 10 years of very successful experience in operating an organization of this kind." He later added a comment, "They, however, can do more for us than we can do for them." My good friends, again, throughout all of the background words and philosophy in the founding of our various regions and chapters, our motto comes forward loud and clear — "To Seek and To Share".

In preparing these words, for this 22nd Annual Meeting of the Western Region, I reread all of the words from our Proceedings which was the first Combined Proceedings of the East and West. It is interesting to reread those words and observe names of members who were appointed to various committees. Again, it would be folly to mention all of the names, but it is fitting that the chairman of the organizational committee, who later became the first president of the Western Region was Don Hartman, who worked hard and diligently in putting together all of the infinite details to form an organization of this magnitude. Also one reads of questions from

members as to how the two Regions were going to work together, what was going to formulate the founding of the International Society as we know it today, and there was much wisdom in all of the discussion which came forth at Asilomar.

It is also interesting to read of another name, a gentleman who has been extremely active and beneficial to this Society over the years. In the summer of 1958, several members living in the West contacted various people to explore the feasibility of establishing a Western Region. One of the most active people in this endeavor was Hudson Hartmann, who, of course, today is our International Editor, and a man that has given much to this Society.

I have often reflected that we all are extremely fortunate to have the total guidance of a Hartmann and a Snyder, sitting on the International Board, offering their wise words of counsel as new International Board members take their position to serve the Society above their Regional affiliation.

It is interesting if one reads all of the words from the first meeting of the Society in 1951, and then read the keynote address given on Saturday morning, October 15, 1960, by James Wells. The title for the two papers was identical, "The Plant Propagator — The Basis of Our Industry". Jim Wells' words were well received, and most certainly filled with the philosophy of a gentleman who definitely has the Society at heart and is warmly genuine with his comments. He closed his address with a sentence, "We should follow your development with keen attention, wishing you well in every way, and hoping that your activities can further enhance on mutual desire to establish and maintain the plant propagator as a craftsman of the highest order." It is difficult to put those thoughts in any finer form.

One final comment is in order relative to the October, 1960, meeting, in words which I could never forget. Dick Fillmore in his opening remarks at Asilomar made this comment, "The Plant Propagators' Society has meant a great lessening of professional loneliness." Dick Fillmore was making the point that prior to the founding of the Society, there was indeed considerable professional loneliness throughout the entire nursery trade. Not only has the Society eliminated this loneliness, but the Society was very instrumental throughout the United States in removing locks from greenhouse doors. Again, for the benefit of the younger members, the locks were not on the doors to guard against theft, but to guard against the theft of propagation techniques. It is almost uncomprehensible to think that such a condition existed, but I have personally seen locks on greenhouse doors, and I am sure others in the

room have witnessed the same phenomenon. A mutual feeling of professional people sharing, and we are back again to the motto of the Society, aren't we?

In reviewing my Historian's files, it is interesting to read the minutes of the 1966 meeting of the IPPS Board, held at Anaheim, California. The International president of the Society at that time was our own Bill Curtis, and he instructed the Secretary, Bill Snyder, to write a letter to James S. Wells, in reply to Jim's inquiry concerning the Board's attitude towards foreign chapters. This is the first record I have of a formal approach to the founding of foreign regions. The Board directed Bill Snyder to draft the letter and that the responsibility of such a Region formation would rest entirely upon the foreign members of the Society in the interest they could generate in the various geographic areas.

From that period on, the Region of Great Britain and Ireland was indeed established, and they held their first meeting on September 18, 1968. The keynote address at their first annual meeting of this region was given by a familiar name, James Wells. At the second meeting, on September 12, 1969, IPPS International President, Pete Vermeulen, was present to sit in the business meeting, as well as the formal program which followed. It was at this meeting that some of the "loose ends" were tied together and it is now history that the G.B.&I. Region is strong and active. It would be folly to mention all of the names of members who were active in the founding of this Region, but names such as Garner, Humphrey, McDonald, Evison, Martyr, and Clark should receive recognition. I hesitate to mention names due to the possibility of missing those members who are worthy of noting, but I believe all would agree that this nucleus of members did, indeed, bring this Region into reality.

The G.B.&I. annual meeting in 1973, had the International Board of Directors in attendance, as well as a total of about 140 overseas members, wives, and other family members who attended the annual meeting, as well as the pre- and post-Conference tours. This was, for all of us present, an outstanding visit and certainly did strengthen the ties separated by a large body of water. It was also at this meeting that Robert Garner was issued Honorary Membership. In rereading the International Board minutes of this 1973 meeting, it is interesting to note that the considerable effort of James S. Wells to establish both the New Zealand and Australian groups was acknowledged with gratitude by all officers and Board of Directors. Today we are honored to see Ray Evison, our International President, and Margaret Scott the Regional Director from G.B.&I. in the attendance with us.

Following the calendar in the growth and development of our Society, on September 26, 1972, a group of plant propagators met at the University of Waikato, in Hamilton, New Zealand, to discuss the formation of a chapter of the Society in that country. Again, the move to start this chapter was initiated by Jim Wells, and the inaugural meeting was carried out by Ellaby Martin and Ron Lycette. Jim Wells explained the philosophy behind the IPPS and contributed to that meeting by showing slides and explaining some techniques of propagation conducted at his own nursery. This Chapter-at-Large, will conduct its 11th Annual Meeting in 1982, and is a viable arm of the International organization. Terry Hatch is their representative attending the 1982 International Board Meeting.

The Australian Region had its inaugural meeting in New South Wales, and Jack Pike gave the opening remarks on behalf of the Federation of Australian Nurserymen, an organization which at that time he chaired. As Jack mentioned in his opening remarks, the history of horticulture in Australia did not have the longevity of that either in the United States or in their mother land of England, and he was very appreciative of the gesture by Jim Wells to again give a keynote address. Jim's title at the Australian Inaugural meeting was, "The Plant Propagator Holds The Future In His Hands". Needless to say, Jim's words were listened to with great attention. He delivered his address with the concept that he had great hopes that the Australian members would help themselves. The purpose of the IPPS was to put all of us in touch with people interested in plant propagation everywhere. He again stressed a philosophy which the present International Board believes in, that each Region or Chapter-at-Large will run their own affairs and meetings, but the stimulus of new ideas from all over the world will give all of us a formula for success which is unbeatable. I am sure that Peter Smith, who is the Director from the Australian Region to the International Board, and Terry Hatch, who is the representative from the New Zealand Chapter, present with us today, fondly look back on the founding of their respective organizations as an important part of the entire International Society.

Those same comments would certainly be applicable to the gentlemen who are present with us today, from the newest Region of the Society. The Southern Region today is represented by the International Vice-President, Charlie Parkerson, Regional Director Jake Tinga, and Alternate Director, David Byers. Charlie Parkerson, who was a loyal hard-working member of the Eastern Region, along with other members living below the Mason-Dixon line, was instrumental in the founding of the Southern Region. The Southern Region held its inaugu-

ral meeting in December 1976, in Mobile, Alabama. There were two devoted IPPS members who shared the keynote comments at this meeting. Bill Curtis, from Oregon, and Jim Wells, from New Jersey. Both these gentlemen have served this Society well and they are certainly dedicated members. The remarks of both these gentlemen were to explain the background and the history of the Society, and they were ably assisted by Bill Snyder, who also was a guest at this meeting. The presentations at their first and second meetings are printed in the Combined Proceedings, Volume 27, dated 1977. The Southern Region is growing rapidly; the International Board met with them at Huntsville, Alabama, in 1980.

We have seen the Society's history in a brief summary of the founding of Regions and Chapters-at-Large. The agenda for the International Board Meetings for the past 4 to 5 years has shown interest from other propagators throughout the world, as to the establishment of a Region in their locale. Hours of deliberation and counsel have gone forth to these interested parties and, in fact, such a topic was on the agenda of the International Board meeting yesterday.

Our Society is strong and viable due, in part, to a blend of the academic and the commercial member. Each benefits the other for obvious reasons. We practicing propagators need the results of testing and experimental work done in various university laboratories. The scientist member needs the application of his or her research conducted in the field under commercial practices. The one key to the success of our beloved Society is member sharing. So we have come 360 degrees around again to our motto, "To Seek and To Share".

Pertinent to this topic, Henry David Thoreau, writing in 1854, said as well as anyone possibly could: "I wish to live life deliberately. I wish to learn if life proves mean, why then to get the whole and genuine meanness of it; or if life were sublime, to know it by experience". That, ladies and gentlemen, is the International Plant Propagators' Society creed in words written long before the development of the Society. We all share one common goal — by bettering ourselves, we enrich all mankind.

## **PLANT PROPAGATION FROM A UTILIZATION VIEWPOINT**

JOHN A. WOTT

*Center for Urban Horticulture, AR-10  
University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington 98195*

Beginning in the 1960's and continuing into the 1970's, Americans became increasingly concerned about their envi-