

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

MONDAY MORNING, 30 SEPTEMBER 2002

The 1st Combined Meeting of the International Plant Propagators' Society Eastern Region and Southern Region of North America convened at 8:00 AM at the Marriott Hunt Valley Inn, Baltimore, Maryland, with Eastern Region President Dick Bir and Southern Region of North America Stewart Chandler presiding.

PRESIDENTS DICK BIR AND STEWART CHANDLER

Presidents Bir and Chandler welcomed everyone to Baltimore, Maryland, for the 1st Combined Meeting of the International Plant Propagators' Society Eastern Region and Southern Region of North America (SRNA). They thanked the local site committees co-chaired by Bill Barnes and Steve Castorani (Eastern Region) and Dick Marshall (SRNA) and their committee for the long hours in arranging the tours, hotel, and other planning activities. Bir and Chandler also thanked the local site committee members from the Eastern Region — Alan Jones and David Thompson, and members of the SRNA — David Nizinski, Charles Parkerson, and David Tankard. They also thanked the meeting sponsors, including the grafter level (\$1000) support received from: Dip N' Grow, Tom Dodd Nursery, Historyland Nursery, Lancaster Farms, Foxborough Nursery, Manor View Farm, Green Industry Yellow Pages, Plant Development Services, Greenleaf Nursery Company, Pursell Technologies, and Harrell's Custom Fertilizer.

Bir encouraged members to view the excellent poster presentations; there were thirty-five posters in total. The poster program was co-chaired by Alan Jones (Eastern) and Donna Fare (SRNA). Chandler encouraged the membership to participate in the Tuesday night auction and to view the items for the silent auction, with the auction proceeds to benefit the Horticultural Research Institute (HRI). They complemented Program Co-Chairs Jim Johnson (Eastern Region) and Randy Jacobs (SRNA) for the outstanding program and speakers assembled for the meeting. Chandler encouraged each member to seek out and share with a new person from either region. Bir then called on Program Co-Chair Randy Jacobs and Jim Johnson.

Program Co-chairs Randy Jacobs and Jim Johnson: Co-Chair Jacobs welcomed everyone to the 1st combined meeting of the Eastern and SRNA. He then reviewed the program for both regions which were composed of combined and separate regional sessions. The Question Box was scheduled for Wednesday morning and was to be co-chaired by Charles Parkerson and Dick Bir. Jacobs then introduced Dr. Sandy Wilson to moderate the 1st general session.