

## Presidential Address: Denver Colorado®

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Welcome to Denver Colorado for this historic combined meeting of the Eastern Region, North America, 58th Annual Meeting, and the Western Region U.S.A. and Canada, 49th Annual Meeting, International Plant Propagators' Society. It is a great pleasure to see so many of you from each region, as well as visitors from other regions, mingling together and making new connections.

It has been a real pleasure to have been able to serve the IPPS Eastern Region for these many years, as a committee member, a director, and as a member of the executive board of directors.

The highlight of my time with the International Plant Propagators' Society, however, has been when I have participated in planning and running annual and area meetings — 1997 in Newport, R.I., 2007 in Montreal, and in 2 years our 60th Annual Meeting in Warwick, Rhode Island. Serving as Program Chair or as a member of a local site committee is a lot of work, but seeing all of you here, having a good time and learning — seeking and sharing — together, makes it all worthwhile.

Like all who have been a part of the International Plant Propagators' Society before, and all who are a part of IPPS now, the greatest rewards of being an IPPS member comes from the act of participation. Whether it is coming to a meeting, speaking, serving on a committee, or as a board member — it is the active participation of every person in this room now that makes the International Plant Propagator's Society work as an organization, and that makes it so enjoyable to be an IPPS member.

Your participation is the heart and soul of the IPPS. You make IPPS possible. It is your attendance at this meeting and at area meetings that keeps IPPS vibrant and relevant. It is all of us together that ensures the IPPS Proceedings exist as our legacy to the world of plant propagators, growers, students and professors of horticulture, both inside and outside of the International Plant Propagator's Society.

We have a wonderful 3 days of talks and tours planned for you here in Denver. Thanks again to our Program Co-Chairs and the Local Site Committee, our speakers, our paid staff and our sponsors for being a part of this historic meeting of the Eastern and Western Regions of the International Plant Propagators' Society.