

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

MONDAY MORNING, 9 October, 2006

The 31st Annual Meeting of the International Plant Propagators' Society – Southern Region of North America convened at 7:45 AM at the Hilton Charlotte University Place, Charlotte, North Carolina, with President Bob Smart presiding.

PRESIDENT BOB SMART. President Smart welcomed everyone to Charlotte, North Carolina, for the 31st Annual Meeting of the International Plant Propagators' Society – Southern Region of North America. He thanked Local Site Committee Chair David Threatt and his committee for the long hours in arranging the excellent tours, hotel, and other planning activities and all their attention to detail. He encouraged all students, new members, and perspective new members to attend the 2nd 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.” Smart also encouraged all members to make new members and attendees feel welcome — share with them and seek from them. He also thanked Program Chair and 1st Vice-President Kay Phelps for the excellent program and slate of speakers she assembled.

LOCAL SITE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DAVID THREATT. Chairman Threatt welcomed everyone to Charlotte. He mentioned that he and his committee had been planning for this meeting for the past 5 years and that it was an honor to have the I.P.P.S. – SRNA come to Charlotte, North Carolina and to meet and tour local nurseries. He thanked his local site committee for all of their help: David Hyatt, Marla Townsend, Rick Crowder, Mike Roberson, and Kevin Gantt.

He talked about the tours, banquet, and auction in the evening, with special guest: NASCAR legend, Richard Petty.

PROGRAM CHAIR KAY PHELPS: Chairman Phelps 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 Blake Jones and Richard May. She thanked Dr. Glenn Fain for his audio and video efforts. Phelps then introduced Stewart Chandler to moderate the 1st session.