

Western Region Cuttings

Summer 2013

Newsletter of the Western Region - International Plant Propagators' Society Vol. 4, No. 1

Portland or Bust!

The International Plant Propagators' Society invites you to the 54th annual meeting of the Western Region and its annual conference being held this year in Portland, Oregon. Oregon is well-known for its rain, but fall is often blessed with sunny skies and temperate weather. Our diverse lifestyle and interests keep visitors returning to Oregon. Oregon's number one commodity is greenhouse and nursery products with nearly \$750M in annual sales. Oregon also produces 95% of all domestic Hazelnuts and 7% of the domestic cranberry production.

Portland is home to the Portland Rose Festival, The Oregon Blues Festival and a host of events highlighting our wines and wineries where Oregon is ranked 3rd among the states with over 300 wineries. Portland is also well-known for its craft beers and local breweries.

One of Portland's Motto's is "Keeping Portland Weird," and is home to the Church of Elvis Museum and Voodoo Doughnuts serving a bacon doughnut. It is also home to Powell's Books one of the largest book stores in the country covering a full block in NW Portland.



Embassy Suites - Portland Airport

Portland is home to Pioneer Courthouse Square directly across from the original County Courthouse which is where Portland lights its Christmas tree and holds many civic events and celebrations.

Oregon also has a growing film and animation industry hosting shows such as Portlandia and Grimm and has been the site for the filming of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," "Sometimes



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Editor's Note: Embedded hyperlinks work for web and email addresses.

ANNUAL MEETING CONTINUED

a Great Notion,” and “Animal House.”

The Oregon Historical Society is open to the public and provides exceptional documentation of the Lewis and Clark Journey, Native American influence and the history of Stumptown, now Portland, where drunken sailors were shanghaied and put on ships using the tunnels still found under Portland’s streets and businesses.

When making your reservations for the conference, please be sure to visit the website for Embassy Suites at the Airport. The IPPS rate is \$129 single or double occupancy. Reservations may be made online at:

[http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/P/PDXESES-IPP-](http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/P/PDXESES-IPP-20130929/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG)

[20130929/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG](http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/P/PDXESES-IPP-20130929/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG) or call reservations at 1-800-821-5879 by September 10th, 2013 to reserve your room. Be sure to mention the code IPP. The hotel has award-winning suites, spacious conference rooms and you'll enjoy complimentary, cook-to-order breakfasts each morning. Also, plan on attending the Manager’s Night reception where you can receive complimentary cocktails every night from 5 to 7 PM.

INTERNATIONAL BOARD TOUR OF OREGON

The three-day Oregon tour for the International Board will start on Saturday, September 28, 2013 at the Embassy Suites Hotel at Portland International Airport. The 56-passenger Navigator Luxury Motor Coach with 5 TV screens and individual seat plug-ins for charging laptops or smart phones will start loading at 7:30 AM for an 8:00 AM departure up the Columbia River Gorge. Stops include the Crown Point Vista House, Multnomah Falls, Bonneville Lock and Dam, Full Sail Brewery, Timber Line Lodge on Mt. Hood, Drive by Gresham Nurseries, and then end up with a dinner cruise on The Spirit of Portland cruise ship from Portland Water Front Park to the Willamette River Falls in Oregon City.

Sunday, September 29, the Motor Coach loads at 7:30 AM at the Embassy Suites Hotel and heads to the Portland International Rose Test Gardens, Portland Japanese Gardens and the Oregon Zoo. From there to Bailey's Nursery in Carlton, Oregon for a lunch and tour, then to Monrovia and Carlton Nursery. We then head to Evergreen Air and Space Museum followed by dinner at Spirit Mountain Casino. After dinner we continue on to the Oregon Coast to spend the night at The Inn At Spanish Head.

Monday, September 30, board the bus and drive along the Oregon Coast to Newport, Oregon, then through the Coast Mt. Range to the Oregon State University Campus and the National Germplasm Facility. From there to the Northwest Wine Studies Center in Salem for lunch and wine tasting. Then, off to the Oregon Garden Resort Hotel in Silverton for tours of the garden and a short Board Meeting followed by dinner at the Hotel Lodge.

Tuesday, October 1, head back to The Embassy Suites Hotel at PDX for the all-day International Board Meeting.

PRE-CONFERENCE TOUR AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW - 2013

We are pleased to announce this year's pre-conference tours featuring Microplant Nurseries Inc., Kraemer's Nursery, Woodburn Nursery & Azaleas and PRT Oregon Plug Nursery with lunch at Seven Brides Brewing in Silverton, Oregon. Silverton Oregon is well-known throughout the Northwest for Silver Falls State Park and the Oregon Garden. Included in the regular conference tours will be J. Frank Schmidt & Sons Nursery, Oregon Flowers Inc., Sester Farms, Bauman Farms & Gardens, Bountiful Farms and Porterhowse Farms. These tours offer something for everyone from tissue culture enthusiasts to conifer growers.

You will be sure to enjoy the many renowned speakers on the program. Topics include conifer grafting, plant breeding and selection, root systems in containers, water quality and fertility, a new screening process for invasiveness and much more. Also on the program will be Polly Owens from Oregon's own hazelnut industry who will speak about a successful partnership between private and public entities. There will be a session on new plants and the famous "Nuggets of Knowledge" will also be presented.

Our Banquet speakers promise to be entertaining and informative. Our speakers are TV's Garden Time hosts, William McClenathan and Judy Alleruzzo. After a buffet dinner, they will delight us with their wit and humor.

We look forward to an exciting conference and the opportunity to meet with leaders in the industry. It will also be an excellent chance to network with other like-minded individuals. Please see the IPPS website for registration details. We look forward to seeing you in Oregon!

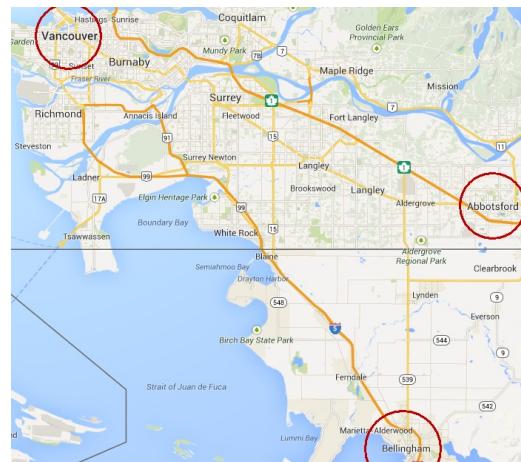
SETTING YOUR SITES ON 2014 - ABBOTSFORD, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Abbotsford 2014 Preview



Even though Portland 2013 is still a couple months away, plans are already being made for our meeting in Abbotsford, BC in October, 2014. You are all invited back to British Columbia, this time in the heart of the Fraser Valley. Whether you choose to fly to Abbotsford International Airport or drive up from Seattle or Bellingham, you will be greeted by fields of raspberries and blueberries. There are greenhouses full of

peppers, cucumbers and tomatoes, and plenty of small, medium and larger nurseries nearby. Closer to the river you will find cranberries and, on various slopes throughout the valley, vineyards are popping up. Throw in the many vegetable and cutflower fields in the area and you will find yourself surrounded by horticulture!



We will be partnering with the CanWest show put on by the British Columbia Landscape and Nursery Association, so the preconference tour will bring us by train into the beautiful city of Vancouver to spend the day at the show and other optional activities or tours. On Thursday we will emphasize edibles and hope to encourage fruit and vegetable growers to join us. Friday and Saturday will have more of a nursery propagation emphasis. **Please mark your calendars for October 1-4, 2014 to join us in Beautiful British Columbia!**

COMPLETED AREA MEETINGS

IPPS Area Meeting organized by Dharam Sharma - March 16th, 2013

A meeting in the greater Modesto area attracted 20 participants. The gathering consisted of a diverse group of people from nurseries, consulting business, seed companies, diagnostic and micropropagation labs, growers and students.

The meeting started in a tent on the lawns of Dry Creek Labs. Mr. John Duarte, President of Duarte Nursery, explained the company's history, mission and its activities and how it has grown to be the largest containerized nursery of fruit and nut trees, vines and bush crops. He said that the company has uncompromising commitment to quality and pathogen-free plant production and it utilizes the latest technologies to develop and test its products before sale through its in-house Research and Development team. The products include nuts (pistachios, walnuts, almonds), fruits (peach, plum, apricot, cherry, apple, olive, various types of citrus), vines (grapes, kiwi) and bush crops (blueberries, raspberries, black berries). The operation works on orders that are taken a year in advance.

Dr. Javier Castillon, Director, gave a tour of Dry Creek Labs which has the annual capacity to micropropagate ten million units. He explained how the desired plant material is acquired from breeders, is introduced and mass-multiplied on a defined medium using aseptic technique and in a controlled environment until it is rooted and sent for acclimatization in specially built greenhouses where light, relative humidity, temperature, growing medium and other environmental factors are controlled. The participants took special interest in the newly built acclimation structures, with benches displaying a large number of newly planted plug trays engulfed in fog to maintain a humid environment. On their way, Robert Kurner explained the mist propagation program he is handling at the nursery. The group was then led by Jesse Ortiz, the Tree Manager, to greenhouses to demonstrate the rootstock growing, grafting and product finishing operations at the nursery and how freedom from pathogens is maintained in their clean-plant program.

The visitors were then led to a grapevine handling and grafting area by Jeff Duarte, Director Operations, and showed how the different vine rootstocks and scion cultivars are treated to eliminate diseases and pests and then handed over to the grafting crew who mechanically cleft-graft about 100,000 vines every day. The grafted vines are then grouped in bunches for rooting and bud break in a specially designed hydroponic system before planting in pots in the greenhouses. They produce about 15-20 million vines every year. At the end of the tour, lunch was

provided and included a choice of sandwiches, salads, and desserts along with a choice of soft drinks along with unique 'Georgetown' wines from Duarte's. Towards the end of the morning session, each participant gave a brief introduction of themselves. Jim Connor, International Director for the Western Region, thanked Duarte's for organizing such a good visit. A special thanks was given to Lily Penfold,

Marketing Manager at Duarte Nursery for her meticulous handling of the details of the event.

The participants proceeded to the annual flower show organized by the Modesto Camellia Society at the Administrative Block of Ernest and Julio Gallo Winery in their own vehicles. There were hundreds of varieties of camellia blooms at display from some ordinary to others that were unique, but all were fresh and provided a great mass effect at the show. There were some camellia plants available for sale and some of our participants made use of this special opportunity.



Group photo of participants of the Modesto area meeting.

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