

# Western Region Cuttings

Summer 2014

Newsletter of the Western Region - International Plant Propagators' Society Vol. 5, No. 2

## Secretary-Treasurer Lee Dempsey to Retire

My introduction to IPPS came through Kathy Echols, now a Past President of the Western Region. She was my instructor at Diablo Valley College where I was taking horticulture classes. After a decade and a half as chief financial officer for independent banks in the Bay Area as well as helping to organize and open three new banks, I was ready to change fields. I joined IPPS in the summer of 2000. A month or so later Kathy told me about the Secretary/Treasurer position since I now had some free time. She mentioned it would mean working a few hours a week. After I was selected for the position, Wilbur Bluhm, my predecessor, graciously invited me to his home for training. After spending a few days with him and his wife Mary I realized the enormity of the task for which I signed on! Fortunately the 2001 and 2002 Program Committees had done a great deal of preparation for their Annual Meetings which allowed me time to climb that steep learning curve for the position. The curve has continued but flattened out a bit, thankfully.



Lee Dempsey out in her garden.

The fourteen years have gone by rapidly, and the trip has been amusing, fun, confusing, frustrating, invigorating, but mostly rewarding, due to all the friends and acquaintances I've met during this time. It was an interesting and enlightening experience working with all the Executive Committees over the years. A special thanks to my husband for his moral and computer support; it kept me focused and somewhat sane.

I will miss all the emails, phone calls and face-to-face interaction, but the time has come to spend time in the garden and with my husband and menagerie of animals we've acquired. I will be around when any of you wish to chat.

And, Kathy Echols... you owe me big time!!



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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Executive Committee of the Western Region is looking forward, with great anticipation, to the Annual Meeting in Abbotsford, British Columbia on October 1-4, 2014. This year's meeting will be partnering with the CanWest show put on by the British Columbia Landscape and Nursery Association so you can look at it as a 2-for-1 meeting. It promises to be an exciting, eventful experience. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. The opportunity to learn from the speakers and network with industry experts is priceless!

Last fall, an *ad hoc* Committee of the Executive Committee was formed to begin the process of hiring a Secretary/Treasurer for the Western Region. Our committee is comprised of Dave Burger, Patrick Peterson, Bruce Lane, Fred Hopkins, Valerie Sikkema and myself. We spent the winter devising a job description and a list of questions for interviews.

This spring, we advertised for the position in the Nursery Management Magazine, GrowerTalks Magazine, The Digger Magazine, Washington State Nursery and Landscape Association Publication and the California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers website as well as a mass emailing to our membership. We are in the process of doing phone interviews with possible candidates and our committee hopes to fill the position this summer. I want to thank the *ad hoc* Committee for all of their time and effort with this process, it's an exciting time to be involved.

As a last note, please think about what a value our membership is to you and your organization. If you can think of other people in your organization or in other organizations who would benefit from membership, ask them to attend a meeting and consider joining. Over the last few years, membership has fallen and we are looking for ways to get our young nursery people more involved in IPPS. Good Luck and I hope to see you in Abbotsford!!



Chris Ames

## RECENTLY HELD AREA MEETING

### Duarte Nursery's Friends Day Attracts Several Thousand

Duarte Nursery, Inc. (DNI) hosted 2,400 attendees and 110 exhibitors displaying their products and services for this year's Friends Day, which was held on Friday, May 2, 2014. It is celebrated every year on the first Friday of May as a customer appreciation day and consists of guided tours of the nursery operations, tissue culture laboratory, industry trade show, complimentary lunch, wine tasting, and presentations.

The event offered growers an opportunity to tour the nursery and meet DNI's innovative and professional staff members. Customers toured DNI's wine grape grafting and propagation facilities, micropropagation and acclimatization areas, and acres of state-of-the-art new generation greenhouses that have sprung up over the past two years. Friends Day provided growers and industry professionals the opportunity to experience the latest technology-driven approach to nursery operations that is followed at Duarte Nursery.

Duarte Nursery, Inc. is a family-owned and operated agriculture nursery located near Modesto in the Central Valley of California. Duarte Nursery is the largest containerized permanent crops nursery in the United States, with a history of innovative research, quality products, and superior customer service.



## UPCOMING AREA MEETING

### International Plant Propagators' Society Oregon Area Meeting

**Tuesday June 24, 2014**  
**Registration open: 7:30 am**  
**Tours: 8:00 am -1:30 pm**

**Farmington Gardens**  
**21815 SW Farmington Rd.**  
**Beaverton, Oregon 97007**

**Cost: \$55.00 per person**  
**Register by: June 16th**  
**\*Limited to space available.**

The Oregon area meeting for 2014 will be a tour of nurseries in the Hillsboro area. The date is Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> beginning at Farmington Gardens in Beaverton at 8:00am. Farmington Gardens is a retail garden center owned and managed by David and Linda Eshraghi. Next, we will travel to Eshraghi Nursery, also owned by David and Linda. Eshraghi Nursery specializes in Japanese maples, grafted conifers and woody ornamentals. The company also produces Christmas wreaths and garlands. We will then visit Blooming Nursery, owned by Grace Dinsdale. Blooming Nursery is best known as a producer of perennials, though they also grow annuals, groundcovers, herbs and ornamental grasses. They are also known for their state-of-the art propagation systems, which include ebb and flow watering and solar heating. Our next stop will be at Gold Hill Nursery. Gold Hill is a family-owned business operated by the third generation of the Gold Family. Gold Hill Nursery grows a wide variety of ornamentals, specializing in topiary and sculpted plants. They are a leading nursery in lean practices and automation. Our final destination will be a return to Farmington Gardens for lunch and a chance to “seek and share” with colleagues.

#### Nursery Tours:

Farmington Gardens   Eshraghi Nursery   Blooming Nursery   Gold-Hill Nursery

Box Lunch Provided

#### For program information contact:

**Laurie Rogers-Roach**  
**Oregon Area Director**  
**503-628-8685 ext. 18**  
**[laurie@eshraghinursery.com](mailto:laurie@eshraghinursery.com)**



## 55<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING: October 1-4 Abbotsford, BC.

### IPPS Western Region - 55th Annual meeting October 1-4 Abbotsford, BC.

#### The Garden of the Future: Plant, Eat and Enjoy

Our Abbotsford meeting is quickly approaching and it is time to make sure you have set aside the dates of 1-4 October to come visit Beautiful British Columbia! The pre-conference tour on Wednesday will start by taking the West Coast Express train from Abbotsford to downtown Vancouver to attend the CanWest show where you will have the opportunity to attend seminars (including one by Eric Madden from Xerces Foundation sponsored by IPPS) and walk the show to get a real taste of the industry here in Western Canada. The afternoon can be spent at the show or on one of a choice of accompanied tours to Granville Island, Stanley Park (the largest urban park in the world), or VanDusen Gardens. You can also go on your own to Lonsdale Quay (across from the convention centre by water bus), or walk along the seawall. The last train back is about 6:30 in the evening or you can stay for dinner and take a bus back to Abbotsford later in the evening.



Thursday will focus on edibles and alternative crops with speakers on blueberries, Haskaps, native plants, and rain gardens. We will go to a cranberry field to see how those wonderful berries are harvested, tour and taste at Fort Wine Company (famous for their wonderful fruit-based wines), visit the Institute for Sustainable Horticulture at Kwantlen University, and tour a large greenhouse grower.

Friday and Saturday will be filled with practical speakers on IPM, media and compost, trade, inventory control, perennial propagation, irrigation, etc. We will have time dedicated to practical demonstrations and our afternoon tours will take us to some of the more innovative nurseries in the eastern Fraser Valley - Van Belle, Qualitree and Pacific Northwest Propagators. Our Banquet speaker on Friday night is David Tracy from Tree City speaking on Urban Agriculture.

And, of course, there will be opportunities to share your Nuggets of Knowledge and New plants, along with our annual business meeting, news from IPPS international, and lots of networking opportunities.

**See you in October!**

## NURSERY RESOURCES

Oregon State University Extension Service has a new resource to help people recognize azalea lace bug and its damage. Azalea lace bug - Chinche de encaje de azalea (EM 9066-P). It is a bilingual, diagnostic poster, 24" by 36" and made of water resistant, soft vinyl with grommets for hanging. The poster has color images and brief descriptions in English and Spanish of the stages and damage. It should be a great training resource for people who work with azaleas and rhododendrons. Check the link for more information and to order.

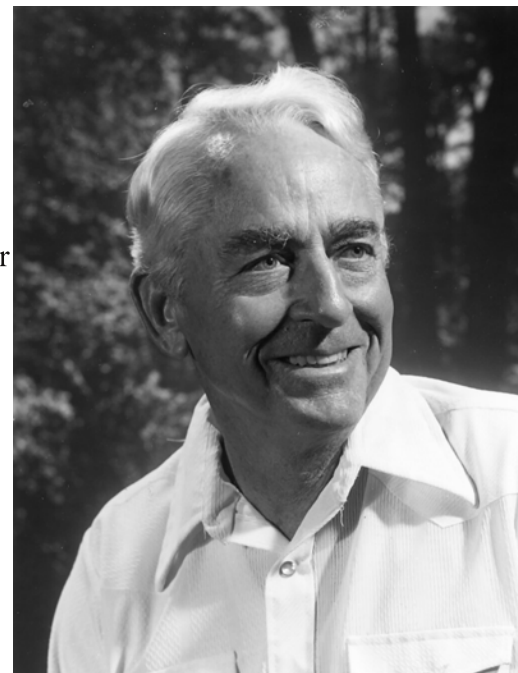


<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/abstract.php?seriesno=EM+9066-P>

## IM MEMORIAM - ROBERT MANCHESTER BODDY

### Robert Boddy

Robert Manchester (Bob) Boddy, rhododendron grower and long-time northern-California-coast resident, passed away on February 26, 2014 in Tustin, California. He was 94 years old. He was born on November 1, 1919 in New York City to Elias Manchester and Berenice (Klotz) Boddy. As an infant he travelled by train with his parents to Los Angeles, where his father became editor and publisher of the Los Angeles Daily News and built the famous Descanso Gardens in La Canada. Bob went on to attend Pomona College, graduating in 1941, where he met his future wife Mildred LeFevre Scott. Bob and Mildred were married in 1942 in Sequim, Washington while Bob was an Army Lieutenant training at Fort Lewis. Bob and Mildred were married for 58 years, until Mildred's death in 2000.



Bob served in the Third Infantry Division from 1941 to 1946, receiving a field promotion to Captain and becoming a Company Commander. After leaving the military Bob started a wholesale nursery business called Descanso Nurseries, named after his father's Southern California gardens. He had nurseries in San Gabriel, Chino and Alta Loma where he grew roses, azaleas and other ornamental plants. In 1953, Bob and Mildred purchased 110 acres on Hanson Road south of Fort Bragg where Bob began growing rhododendrons and where the family spent many summers. Bob and Mildred moved permanently from Southern California to Fort Bragg in 1970. Bob operated Descanso Nurseries in Fort Bragg until he retired in 2011 at age 91. He was in the nursery business for 65 years.

Bob was one of the first to figure out how to grow rhododendrons in containers using lightweight soil mixes. The plants were traditionally grown in the field, then dug up and wrapped in burlap for sale. He was also a pioneer in rooting rhododendrons from cuttings using mist propagation. Rhododendrons were thought to be impossible to root and had to be reproduced by grafting. He later became interested in heathers, and introduced many new varieties to Northern California landscapes.

He served as Chapter President for the California Association of Nurserymen, President of the International Plant Propagators' Society - Western Region and was on the first board of directors for the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens. He gave hundreds of rhododendrons to Ernest and Betty Schoefer to plant while they were developing the Botanical Gardens in the 1960s and has donated plants to countless organizations on the Mendocino Coast.

Bob had a keen eye for promising new plants. He spent years selecting twenty of the best rhododendrons for commercial production from the thousands that local resident Dr. Leonard Charvet hybridized. One of these, the yellow-flowered General Braxton Bragg, was introduced at the twenty-ninth annual John Druecker Memorial Rhododendron Show in 2006.

Bob was active in the Noyo Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society, the North American Heather Society and the Mendocino Coast Model Railroad and Historical Society.



### **Western Region Cuttings**

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