



## ***BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES - 2008***

February 4, 2008

Adam's Mark Hotel, Dallas, TX

President Chris Clark called the meeting to order  
at 3:20 p.m.

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**Remarks from Ray Martyn, APS President:** Ray congratulated the graduate students for their presentations. He reported that divisional membership is growing, at least because divisional dues are added automatically to APS dues. He spoke about the things that occupied the time of the APS council: 1) financial planning: The journal income is declining (because of e subscriptions), so they are looking at other revenue sources, like client services (e.g. managing other societies, putting on workshops); 2) managing Plant Management Network, which is losing money (\$1,000,000); 3) collaboration with the Chinese; and 4) apsnet.org, which is outdated and needs two years and \$250,000 to fix. He promoted the upcoming centennial meeting, which has the theme, "Agriculture, Food Security, and Public Health: Global Issues – Global Solutions". The meeting will have two, three-hour plenary sessions at the beginning and a plenary session to close the meeting. In 2011, APS will meet with IPPC in Honolulu.

**Minutes of 2006.** The minutes of the 2007 Business Meeting (Mobile, AL) were distributed and unanimously approved ( J. Damicone, motion; R. Kemerait, 2<sup>nd</sup>).

**Financial Report.** The 2007 report was presented by Thomas Isakeit, Secretary-Treasurer. The beginning balance for January 1, 2007 was \$19,263.89. The income of \$8,430.65 was offset by expenses of \$4,756.38, leaving a surplus of \$3674.27. The ending balance for 2007 from APS HQ was \$24,155.02 and from my own accounting was \$21,976.16. The financial activities were from the Mobile meeting and the new expense of the APS election fee. Tim Brenneman agreed to audit reports for the past four years.

**Membership Report.** As of December 31, 2007, there were 643 members of the Southern Division, an increase of 2.

**Necrology Report.** There were no reported deaths of SD-APS members since the last meeting. The secretary-treasurer's report was accepted (K. Steddom, motion; J. Woodward, 2<sup>nd</sup>).

**APS Councilor's Report.** John Rupe reported that the mid-year council meeting was approaching and they would be involved in strategic planning. He requested suggestions. K. Steddom, a member of OEC, proposed redesigning the website.

**Graduate Student Travel Awards.** Bob Kemerait gave the report. The awardees were Dina Gutierrez (Louisiana State University), S-Y Park (Texas A&M University), R. Donahoo (University of Tennessee), Brooke Edmunds (North Carolina University), and Cruz Torres (Texas A&M University). Each will receive a check for \$300.

**Graduate Student Paper Competition.** Craig Rothrock was the chair of the judging committee. Boyd Padgett, Jason Woodward, and Kenny Seebold were also judges. There were 13 papers submitted. The first place winner (\$300 prize) was Jim Kerns (North Carolina State University) for the paper, "Determination of the optimal temperature for infection of creeping bentgrass roots by *Pythium volutum*". The second place winner (\$200 prize) was Brooke Edmunds (North Carolina State University) for the paper, "Relationships between preharvest conditions and increased susceptibility of sweetpotatoes to *Rhizopus* soft rot and bacterial soft rot in Louisiana and North Carolina". The third place winner (\$100 prize) was Cruz Torres (Texas A&M University) for the paper, "Isolation of *Xylella fastidiosa* from seven grape varieties in a Texas vineyard". The students were presented with certificates. Prize money was disbursed after the meeting.

**Outstanding Plant Pathologist Award.** This award recognizes distinguished contributions to plant pathology. There were three nominations and five judges. Tim Brenneman, professor at the University of Georgia in Tifton, won the award. An award plaque was presented by Bob Kemerait to Tim Brenneman. Tim will also receive \$400.

**Old Business:** Future meeting sites were discussed. Mark D. Legendre, Secretary/Treasurer of SAAS talked about the SAAS meeting February 1-3, 2009 at the Westin Plaza in downtown Atlanta. The 2010 SAAS meeting would be in Orlando and the 2011 meeting would be in the Omni Tower in Corpus Christi, TX. He later said that the SAAS registration fee would rise from \$40 to \$60. Tim Brenneman reported that it would be too expensive for SD-APS to meet separately from SAAS in Savannah, GA as agreed last year. The membership overwhelmingly decided to meet with SAAS in 2009.

**New Business.** There was a discussion of SD-APS meeting registration deadlines, but no decision. The membership agreed to spend \$1000 to become an APS centennial sponsor. Craig Rothrock suggested that SD-APS look into meeting outside SAAS in 2011. Kenny Seebold and Bob Kemerait were charged with looking for a location. The election results were presented: Boyd Padgett (Louisiana State University) was elected vice-president.

**Resolutions.** Kenny Seebold undertook to supercede John Sherwood's legacy in presenting witty commentary of the meeting. A motion to accept the resolutions was made by Clayton Hollier and seconded by Kevin Ong.

**Introduction of Incoming President.** Chris Clark presented the presidential gavel to Kenny Seebold. Kenny presented Chris with a commemorative plaque.

Kenny Seebold made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Gerald Holmes. The meeting was adjourned by Kenny Seebold at 4:45 PM.

Submitted by Tom Isakeit, Secretary-Treasurer.