

Presidents Message

IPPS Newsletter March 2026



The IPPS Eastern Region Board has been very busy behind the scenes this winter. There are a lot of exciting new changes coming in 2026. Our mid-year board of directors' meeting was held recently in Grand Rapids preparing for both hosting the International IPPS Tour and for our annual conference. The International Tour will start in Minneapolis Sept 11, 2026 ([MORE HERE](#)) and end in Grand Rapids joining us at our annual conference ([MORE HERE](#)) which begins Sept 22, 2026.

I NEED YOUR HELP!!!

My goal as President is to reinvigorate our Membership! To do this we need everyone to pitch in. We have a great conference planned in Grand Rapids which should be a catalyst to start this movement.

Our membership has always been a great mix of Plant Breeders, Propagators, Nursery Staff, Educators, Botanical Garden and Arboretum Professionals, Allied Suppliers, and Students in the Horticultural Field. We all share a common love of plants. We recognize the value we bring to our communities through the beauty, health, and mental wellness that plants provide. Our organization is based on innovating and improving our plants and production practices.

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP!

Please join me in recruiting new members to Seek and Share information on Plants. The Propagation and Production of Plants! This is what we are all about. So, if you are a Propagator, reach out to all your propagation friends and invite them to join our community. If you are in Plant Production, reach out to your friends and invite them to join! If you are an Educator in Horticulture, reach out to your colleagues and invite them to join! Breeders, we need you to reach out as well. Botanical Gardens and Arboretums are our Plant Ambassadors! We need more representation from this area. To our Allied Suppliers who support our industry from pots to potting mix to fertilizer to burlap and baskets, we cannot do this without you! Come join in and help support the important work that we all are doing.

To quote our Membership Committee Chair, Adam McClanahan, “It’s all about relationships!” Let us continue to build these relationships through IPPS!

If each of us can personally invite 5 to 10 of our friends, we can reinvigorate our membership and connect with each other this September in Grand Rapids to Seek and Share! Send this link to them so they can join! <https://ena.ipps.org/membership-levels/>

Thanks everybody!

Steve Foltz
President, IPPS Eastern Region