

## **R. Keith Osborne is named 2017 Fellow of the IPPS Eastern Region**

Keith Osborne has been honored at the 2017 IPPS Eastern Region Conference with the Fellow Award. Keith is the Horticulturalist for Gro-Bark (Ontario) Ltd. and has been a long time IPPS member, Board of Directors Member, active leader in local IPPS area meetings in Ontario, and is also currently on Staff at IPPS ER as the Sponsorship Coordinator.



*Keith Osborne, left, with Recognition Committee Chair Brian Decker.*

Keith began his career assisting his parents with their garden center in Blenheim, Ontario. He studied business and finance and eventually Plant Biology at the University of Guelph.

Keith and his wife Dong-Mei have a five-year-old daughter Ella who is the apple of Keith's eye. The family has travelled several times to China to visit Dong-Mei's family.

Keith has shown strong leadership as a Director on the Eastern Region Board of Directors (2011-14) and creative enthusiasm as Chair of the 2014 Local Site Committee for our conference in Niagara Falls, Ontario. He has been heavily involved in organizing Area Meetings for Ontario (2012-13-16-17) and has been very successful in developing and executing the role of IPPS-ER Sponsorship Coordinator since 2015. Without sponsorship funds, the operating budget for IPPS ER would have to be dramatically curtailed.

Keith has also authored 3 papers that were submitted to IPPS ER at the annual conferences. It is clear, since joining the Eastern Region in 2002, Keith has been a very active and influential member. We congratulate him on receiving this well-deserved honor: IPPS Eastern Region Fellow 2017.