

## President's Welcoming Remarks®

### Tom Intven

Canadale Nurseries, Ltd., 269 Sunset Drive, St. Thomas, Ontario N5R 3C4 Canada

I'd like to welcome all attendees; in particular members from other regions—we have members from the Southern and the Western regions. We would also like to warmly welcome attendees from Chile, the Netherlands, and Belgium, and non-members and students. In particular we'd like to recognize and welcome new members. Would all new members please stand and be recognized. Ladies and Gentlemen can we please show our welcome with applause.

At this time I would like to recognize the Local Site Committee for all their hard work. Chair: Jim Johnson and Members Darrel Apps, Denny Blew, Joe Kiefer, Ted Kiefer, Andy Mackay, Ed Overdevest, Roger Ruske, and George Smith. I know how much work has gone into it. Please join me in congratulating and thanking the Local Site Committee for a job well done.

A special thanks to Steve Castorani for a terrific program; Steve, your efforts took the dual track program to a new level, not only offering simultaneous talks on woody plants and perennials but also, for the first time at an annual meeting, offering simultaneous Hispanic talks.

Thanks also to Darrel Apps for the poster session, great job Darrel.

I'd like to thank publicly our AV operators Dr. David Sanford and Scott Clark and their two Assistants from Rutgers Cooperative Extension: Jerry Frecon and Rich Obal. Your job is so valuable, and we thank you very much for making our meetings run so smoothly.

At this time I would like to have us recognize the passing of members since we last gathered: Sidney Waxman, University of Connecticut retired, member since 1962 (Honorary member, Award of Merit and Fellow Award) and Joseph Cesarini, Owner of Phyto Ecology, Ridgely, Maryland, a member since 1964.