

# CHAPTER VI

## SNA AWARDS

### THE SLATER WIGHT MEMORIAL AWARD

In 1956, the late John B. Wight, Sr., suggested to the Officers of the Southern Nurserymen's Association that an award be offered annually to the person of their selection who, in their opinion, had contributed most to the advancement of the industry in the south and to the welfare of the Southern Nursery Association.

The award was to be known as the Slater Wight Memorial Award, in memory of the late Slater Wight, brother of the late John B. Wight, Sr.

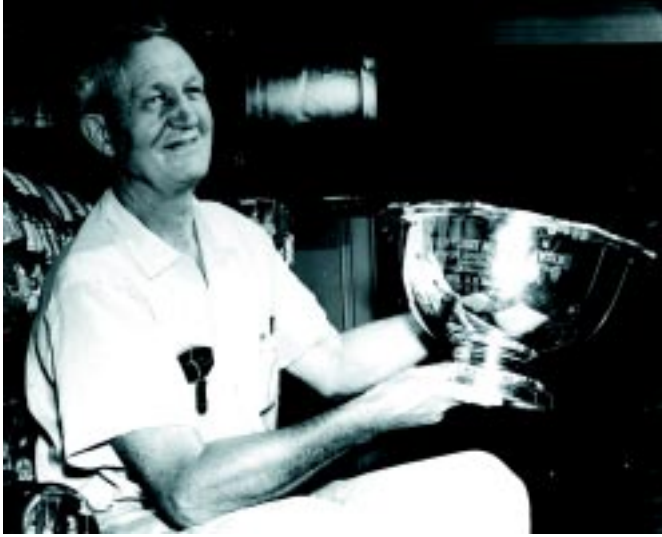
The award is continued by John B. Wight, Jr., Cairo, Georgia.

The recipients are as follows:



J. Slater Wight  
SNA President - 1931

1956	A.S. Gresham, Jr.	1978	Louis B. Hillenmeyer, Jr.
1957	Richard H. Jones	1979	John B. Wight, Jr.
1958	Henry B. Chase	1980	Troy Keeble
1959	Tom Dodd, Sr.	1981	A.D. Cartwright, Jr.
1960	T.N. Nicholson	1982	Richard L. Ammon
1961	Arthur J. Lancaster, Jr.	1983	William H. "Bill" Barton, Sr.
1962	Harvey Templeton, Jr.	1984	Raymond P. Oglesby
1963	Hoskins Shadow	1985	Charles H. Parkerson
1964	Hubert A. Nicholson	1986	Carl E. Whitcomb
1965	James M. Patterson	1987	Don O. Shadow
1966	C.J. Hayden	1988	M. David Byers, Jr.
1967	Robert Marvin	1989	Thomas L. Henegar
1968	R.E. "Ed" Brown	1990	Tom Dodd, Jr.
1969	Dr. Bryson L. James	1991	Frank H. Colvett
1970	Sidney B. Meadows	1992	Fount H. May, Sr.
1971	Jacques L. Legendre	1993	Wilbur C. Mull
1972	Dwight Cain	1994	Dennis V. McCloskey
1973	Porter Henegar	1995	C. Fletcher Flemer, III
1974	Geddes Douglas, Sr.	1996	Louis Hillenmeyer, III
1975	Rene Casadaban	1997	Dr. J.C. Raulston
1976	James T. Pursell	1998	Rupert Earl Wells
1977	Harold B. Thornhill		



Richard H. Jones  
1957 Slater Wight Memorial Award Recipient



SNA Convention & Trade Show - Atlanta, GA, 1960  
Holding replicas of the Slater Wight Memorial Award - to be presented to the past year's recipient each year - are pictured left to right: T.N. Nicholson, Sr. (1960 recipient), Tom Dodd, Sr. (1959 recipient), and A.S. Gresham, Jr. (1956 recipient)

## THE DAVID E. LAIRD, SR. MEMORIAL AWARD



David E. Laird, Sr.  
SNA President - 1965

Established in 1974 by David E. Laird, Jr. in memory of his father, SNA Past President David E. Laird, Sr., this award is given each year to recognize qualified young men and women for outstanding service in the field of environmental horticulture and to offer inspiration for others starting out in the field. The recipient must be 35 years of age or younger and must be a member of his/her state nursery association.

The recipients are as follows:

1974	Charles H. Parkerson
1975	Don O. Shadow
1976	Wilbur C. Mull
1977	Hunter Boulo, Jr.
1978	John C. Watkins
1979	Carl Fletcher Flemer, III
1980	Terry Michael Hobbs
1981	J. Fred Fisher, II
1982	Randall E. Strode
1983	Jeffrey B. Miller
1984	William "Buzz" Barton, Jr.
1985	Lee C. Howell
1986	George Hackney
1987	Wayne Hardy
1988	Wayne Sawyer
1989	Wilfred L. "Red" Robbins
1990	Rickey D. Minton
1991	William J. Boyd
1992	Daniel B. Batson
1993	D. E. "Skeetter" McCorkle
1994	Wanda Metz Chase
1995	Thomas N. Saunder
1996	Karen Martinson McKie
1997	James L. Snyder
1998	Jeffrey Owen Howell



1998 SNA Convention & Trade Show  
Pictured left to right: Lee C. Howell, Jeffrey Owen Howell, Karen Martinson McKie, Wanda Metz Chase, Wilfred L. Robbins, Wayne Sawyer, Charles H. Parkerson, J. Fred Fisher, II, William J. Boyd, James L. Snyder, Wilbur C. Mull, George Hackney, C. Fletcher Flemer, III, Jeffrey B. Miller, Terry Michael Hobbs, Thomas N. Saunders, Daniel B. Batson and D.E. "Skeetter" McCorkle.

## THE SNA PINNACLE AWARD

Established by the SNA Board in 1992, this award is presented annually to the individual within the allied industry who, in the opinion of the SNA Board, has contributed most to the advancement of the industry in the south and to the welfare of the Southern Nursery Association. Nominations are received from the SNA Trade Show Advisory Committee with final selection by the SNA Board of Directors.

The recipients are as follows:

1992	John H. Powell
1993	James T. Pursell
1994	Jimmy Booth
1995	Sonny Bouldin
1996	Henry J. Guarriello
1997	John J. Balderacchi
1998	Robert W. Grooms



John H. Powell receives the first SNA Pinnacle Award.  
SNA Past Presidents' Awards Banquet  
Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, GA, August 1, 1992  
Pictured from left to right: J. Fred Fisher, II, John H. Powell and Gladys Powell.



## **THE PORTER E. HENEGAR MEMORIAL AWARD**



D. Porter Henegar  
SNA Executive Secretary  
1959 - 1972

In 1969, an Award of Merit was created to honor those individuals who had made outstanding contributions to ornamental horticultural research and, more specifically, to SNA. In 1972, the SNA Board of Directors resolved that the Award of Merit would be renamed the Porter Henegar Award for Horticultural Research in memory of the late Porter Henegar, Past Executive Secretary of SNA, to commemorate his years of tireless effort and service to this association.

The recipient is selected annually by fellow research workers for his/her concern and work toward improving the nursery industry. The award is continued today by Tommy and Mary Henegar.

### **AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENTS**

Dr. T. F. Cannon  
Dr. J. H. Tinga

J. P. Fulmer  
Dr. Bryson L. James

## PORTER HENEGAR AWARD RECIPIENTS

1972	Raymond L. Self
1973	Frank A. Pokorny
1974	Hendrick van de Werken
1975	Kenneth C. Sanderson
1976	B.P. Verma
1977	Carl B. Whitcomb
1978	Fred C. Galle
1979	Robert C. Lambe
1980	Charles S. Johnson
1981	Daniel C. Milbocker
1982	James A. Reinert
1983	Robert W. Wright
1984	Gerald E. Smith
1985	Adolph J. Laiche, Jr.
1986	Dewayne L. Ingram
1987	Will L. Corley
1988	Thomas H. Yeager
1989	Warren A. Meadows
1990	Frank A. Blazich
1991	Charles H. Gilliam
1992	Richard E. Bir
1993	Walter A. Skroch
1994	Jerry T. Walker
1995	Ted E. Bilderback
1996	Ken Tilt
1997	Ted Whitwell
1998	Robert H. McNiel

# CHAPTER VII

## THE PRESIDENTS OF THE SOUTHERN NURSERY ASSOCIATION, INC.

*A Chronological Compilation of Biographical Sketches*

In the one hundred years of the history of Southern Nursery Association (formerly the Southern Nurserymen's Association) there have been ninety-seven men who have served as President. It is their dedication and leadership that has brought the SNA to the forefront (as an association) of this industry. Those Presidents who are deceased are noted with an asterisks (\*). Following are the biographies of SNA's Past Presidents.

### **Nathan Wesley Hale - 1899 & 1900 \***

Nathan Wesley Hale, SNA president for the first two years of the association's existence, was born in Scott County, Virginia on February 11, 1860. He was descended from a soldier of the Revolution and his father, Drayton S. Hale, served in the Union Army during the Civil War. Mr. Hale's education consisted of 18 months in training schools. He sold goods in Scott County, Virginia in 1882 and 1883, and taught school there in 1884. He left Virginia in 1885 and went to Knox County, Tennessee, and sold nursery stock there for Bird and Dew of the Knoxville Nursery. He was offered an interest in the business and later became president and manager of the Knoxville Nurseries, owning one-half of it. He was also president of the Southern Nursery at Winchester.

Mr. Hale was elected to the Lower House of the Tennessee State Legislature in 1890 and in 1892 was elected to the Senate. He married Laura Sebastian, daughter of a prominent lawyer in Kentucky .

Mr. Hale served as vice-president of AAN and president in 1903 and 1904.

### **William Taylor Hood - 1901 \***

William Taylor Hood, the son of James and Matilda Quinn Hood, was born at Parkersburg, Pennsylvania October 2, 1846 and died at the age of 85, August 21, 1931. As a young man he considered moving West, but was persuaded by Samuel C. Kent to go to Virginia instead. In the winter of 1865 he began work in Mr. Kent's nursery at \$150 per year and board. In March 1866, he ploughed the first furrow for the Richmond Nurseries of Franklin Davis & Company. In 1867 he was promoted to the position of foreman.



He continued as production foreman until January 1876 when he bought a one-third interest in the Richmond Nurseries, going into partnership with Franklin Davis and Samuel C. Kent. By 1880, Franklin Davis was running the Baltimore Nurseries of Franklin Davis & Company, and Samuel Kent had returned to Pennsylvania,

but both continued as partners in the Richmond Nurseries. In February 1887, W. T. Hood became associated with C. W. Winn in Hood & Winn, Old Dominion Nurseries. In 1889, Mr. Winn withdrew to enter the tobacco business and the nursery business was continued as W. T. Hood & Company, Old Dominion Nurseries. By the 1890's the nursery had 350 acres and was advertised as the largest nursery south of the Potomac.

W. T. Hood married Annie Bell Williams on August 25, 1881. She died March 31, 1926. Their son, Kent Williams Hood (1884-1936) was associated with W. T. Hood & Company until his death in 1936. The nursery business was continued by Kent's widow, Annie Collins Hood and the Virginia Trust Company as executors of the Kent W. Hood trust until 1953. W. T. Hood's granddaughter, Mary Hood Evans, and a great-grandson, David Marvin Evans live in Seattle, Washington.

W. T. Hood was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen for forty-five years. He was the second president of the Southern Nurserymen's Association, presiding over the convention held at Asheville, North Carolina in 1901.

Two fruits introduced by W. T. Hood & Company were the "Overall Cherry" and a strawberry, "Tennessee Prolific". In 1908 W. T. Hood and I. Howard Williams established an orchard near Greenwood, Virginia later operated as the Mountain Hollow Orchard in partnership with Mr. Alwood.

For many years Mr. Hood was active in the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church of Richmond.

### **John Van Lindley - 1902 \***

John Van Lindley SNA president in 1902 was born in Monrovia, Indiana on November 5, 1838. His father, Joshua Lindley, had moved there from North Carolina in 1830, but returned to North Carolina in 1840. The Lindley Nursery was first established in North Carolina in 1748 by Thomas Lindley, great grandfather of J. Van Lindley. Joshua Lindley, was a fruit grower and nurseryman in Cheatham County and later at New Garden.



Having descended from Quaker stock and totally unsympathetic with the southern cause, J. Van Lindley joined the Federal army in the Civil War and served three years with the Union Army. He returned to North Carolina after the war and in 1866 he reestablished his father's business, the New Garden Nursery.

In 1874, J. Van Lindley went into business for himself under the name of Pomona Hill Nurseries. This nursery was expanded to include several hundred acres of nursery stock and 17 greenhouses for flowers. Also a branch nursery was established at Southern Pines. In 1887, he re-organized his business under the name of J. Van Lindley Nurseries. In addition to his nursery, he was a heavy holder of peach orchards in North Carolina and Georgia.

Mr. Lindley had many outside interests. In 1891-92 he was the president of the American Association of Nurserymen. At one time he was president of the Underwriters Insurance Company of Greensboro. For some 30 years he was a trustee of Guildford College. He was one of the organizers of the public school system in Guildford County, and built one school at his own expense and presented it to the county. He was president of the Guildford County Road Association and campaigned successfully for a public road system.

Other activities included serving on the boards of directors of the Southern Life and Trust Company, the Vanstory Clothing Company, the Southern Stock Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and the Pomona Cotton Mill Company. He was president of the North Carolina Horticultural Association and was active in the American Pomological Society. He was also president of the Pomona Terr-Cotta Company, a company devoted to the manufacture of sewer pipe.

J. Van Lindley died June 13, 1918 at the age of 80.

### **G. H. Miller - 1903 \***

G. H. Miller, SNA president in 1903, was born in Muskingum County, Ohio in 1837. He and his wife, the former Clarissa Cooper, had one son, John Chalmers Miller. He attended Muskingum College and was the author of a book entitled "The Beautiful Life", published in Chicago in 1904. He also was a member of the Georgia State Horticultural Society in which he served as secretary. He was the president at one time of the North Georgia Fruit Growers Institute.

Mr. Miller first started his nursery business in Norwich, Ohio. In 1884 he moved to Georgia for his health and in order to take advantage of a longer growing season for his plants. Also he had sympathized with the south in the Civil War. He first located on Missionary Ridge near Chattanooga, Tennessee, but later moved to Rome, Georgia, where he liked the Presbyterian Church in which he served as an elder for many years.

He reestablished his nursery business in Rome under the name of Excelsior Nurseries and operated it until his death in 1916. His only son, John, died the same year. The business was continued by two grandsons but was liquidated during the first World War. After the war, one of the grandsons, George Miller, operated a large apple orchard near Cornelia, Georgia, which had been planted by Excelsior Nurseries. In 1927, he moved back to Rome and organized a retail nursery business which he operated until 1957.

In a publication entitled "Men of Mark in Georgia," Mr. G. H. Miller is credited as being the father of the peach industry in North Georgia.

## **J. C. Hale - 1904 \***

J. C. Hale, SNA president in 1904, was born in Virginia in 1866. He died in Winchester, Tennessee, 1934. He was married to Carrie Vaughn and they had no children.

Mr. Hale was the proprietor of the Tennessee Wholesale Nursery, which was later changed to the J. C. Hale Nursery. He was one of Winchester's early wholesale growers, and was president of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association from 1905 until 1909. Mr. Hale also served as the postmaster of Winchester for several years.



## **Charles Theodore Smith - 1905 \***

Charles Theodore Smith is the only man ever to serve as an SNA president for three terms 1905, 1908 and, twenty years later, in 1928. He was born in Dade County, Georgia in 1865 and died in 1938. His parents were Phillip and Mary Basden Smith. Mr. Smith was married to the former Effie Richter in 1892 and they had one son, Charles Richter Smith.



Concerning Mr. C. T. Smith and the establishment of the Smith Brothers Nurseries, we quote from the History of Pike County, Ga. published in 1932: "In the spring of 1888 two brothers, J. H. and C. T. Smith, sons of Phillip Smith of Pomona, Spalding County, moved to Pike County and bought a small tract of land near Concord. Without much capital, but with indomitable energy, faith in themselves, and a determination to succeed, they began a little nursery business. Later they were joined by their brother, F. M. Smith.

"Forty-four years have come and gone and through these years. wonderful developments have been taking place from that small beginning. Today (1932) Smith Brothers Nurseries Company has the largest business of the kind in the state and one of the largest in the south. With the slogan, 'Satisfied customers make the best advertisers,' they have sold millions of trees and shrubbery all over the Southern States and have shipped to other sections.

"Ownership and management of the business have been exclusively in the Smith family since 1888. C. T. Smith has been president and business manager since the beginning, while C. R. Smith, C. M. Smith, and E. L. Smith were other directors and managers."

Mr. C. T. Smith was a prominent business man who was nationally known as a nurseryman. He was also a banker and farmer and was a founder of the Concord Christian Church. He was listed in Who's Who in America.

Mr. Smith was a member of the Pike County Board of Education from 1898 to 1922 and was mayor of the town of Concord for three terms. He was president of the Southern Nurserymen's Association for three terms and was president of the County Banker's Association in 1916-1917-1918.

An active member of the Georgia Horticultural Society, Mr. Smith was president of the society in 1936 and 1937.

Although all these interests kept him a very busy man, yet he found time to be a useful citizen, a good neighbor and a loyal church worker.

### **Orlando Harrison - 1906 \***

Orlando Harrison, SNA president in 1906, was born January 27, 1867 in Sussex County, Maryland. In 1893. Mr. Harrison married Ada H. Long. They had four sons, G. Hale, Henry L. Orlando, Jr., and John L.

In 1884, at the age of 17, Orlando Harrison, with his father, J. G. Harrison, moved to Berlin, Maryland, where they started a nursery business under the name of J. G. Harrison & Son. They dealt in peach trees, strawberry plants and asparagus roots. Later they added pear and apple trees. Beginning on one farm of 170 acres, by 1899 they owned six farms, all devoted to the nursery business and the production of choice fruit for the eastern market.

Mr. Harrison was president of AAN in 1906-07. He was president of the Exchange and Savings Bank of Berlin and a director of the Berlin Building & Loan Association. An ardent temperance leader, Mr. Harrison won a seat in the lower house of the Maryland legislature with the endorsement of the Anti-Saloon League. He later was elected state senator and served several terms. His work in the state legislature centered around removing from the Maryland nursery inspection law several features which were especially objectionable to nurserymen. He was mayor of Berlin for 10 years. He died March 24, 1928.

### **J. A. Young - 1907 \***

J. A. Young, SNA president 1907, and proprietor of John A. Young & Sons Nursery, was born in 1863 and died in 1929 at the age of 66. He was the father of three sons and two daughters. He began his nursery business as a grower of fruit trees and strawberries, and later his sons worked with him in the business.

His land consisted of over a thousand acres and included a large dairy farm. This land is now the east and northeast section of the city of Greensboro, North Carolina. Also, he was one of the first, if not the first, ornamental landscapers in Greensboro.



Mr. Young originated several new varieties of plants. Of special note were two peach trees known as Greensboro Number One and Two, and also a very hardy form of camellia japonica known as Greensboro Red which is still extensively grown in the Greensboro area. He is credited with importing the first Nandina seeds from Japan and introducing this plant to the American public. In addition to his nursery business, Mr. Young also owned and operated a large commercial apple orchard in Mt. Airy, North Carolina.

After his death, the nursery was bought by Mr. John Barnham, who is now retired and lives in Greensboro.

### **Charles Theodore Smith - 1908 \***

See biography Charles Theodore Smith - 1905

### **Henry B. Chase - 1909 \***

Mr. Chase was a native of Livermore, Maine, and moved to Alabama at an early age. He was born in 1870 and died in 1961. He first formed the Alabama Nursery, located in Huntsville, which later became the Chase Nursery Company and was relocated in Chase, Alabama, a few miles from Huntsville. This concern was operated as a mail order business before entering the wholesale nursery business.



Mr. Chase, as with many successful men of his day, had little formal education, being known as a self made man. His activities were many. He was a member and past president of the American Nurserymen's Association in 1909, and recipient of the Slater Wight Memorial Award in 1958.

From 1924 to 1928, he was the mayor of Huntsville. He was a charter member and past president of the Huntsville Rotary Club and a member of the Newcomen Society of the United States. Mr. Chase was married to the former Annie Steward of Hickory, North Carolina. They had no children.

### **R. C. Berckmans - 1910 \***

R. C. Berckmans, SNA president in 1910, son of Mr. P. J. A. Berckmans, was the owner and operator of Fruitlands Nurseries Augusta, Georgia. Fruitlands Nursery was one of the first nurseries in the south and is now the home of the Augusta National Golf Club. In 1932 Mr. P. J. A. Berckmans wrote a history of the property from which we quote:



“In 1853, Dennis Redmond purchased 315 acres of land from Benjamin H. Warren, on the Washington Road, originally an Indian trail from the seaboard to the Great Smoky Mountains. The property was named “Fruitlands.” Redmond built the concrete residence in 1854. In 1857, Dr. L. E. M. Berckmans (the grandfather of both the brothers whom we knew and who prepared this story) purchased a half interest in the property and an additional 50 acres adjoining. In 1858, Dr. Berckmans’ son, P. J. Berckmans, purchased the entire property and started a nursery.”



In Revolutionary days, "Fruitlands" was part of the settlement of Bedford and history tells us that in 1540 when DeSoto, with 600 followers, marched to North Georgia, he camped at an Indian settlement at Silver Bluff, on the Savannah River about 12 miles south of Augusta. From that place he followed the south side of the river and as his course led along the Indian Trail, which is now Washington Road, his party passed directly along the northern border of "Fruitlands" property line.

Many interesting trees and shrubs first propagated by the original Mr. Berckmans may still be found at various locations on the property among which are several varieties of Japanese wisterias, and the Spanish cork oak (received from the Patent Office, U. S. Department of Agriculture) about 1860.

*Biota aurea nana*, now known as *Berckmans Golden Arbor-Vitae* was originated by Mr. P. J. A. Berckmans in 1887, as was *Berckmans Golden Spire Arbor-Vitae*.

*Citrus trifoliata* was introduced to American horticulture by Fruitlands from a plant collected in Japan by Mr. Thomas Hogg in 1870. Also from this same collector came *Ligustrum amurense*, the famous Amur Privet Hedge, which has been propagated by the millions since it was introduced by Fruitlands.

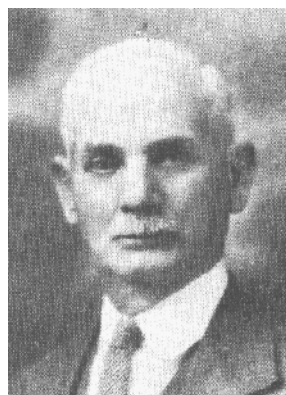
Furthermore, Mr. Berckmans introduced the first commercial variety of Japanese persimmon, also from the famous plant collector, Dr. Hogg.

It is interesting to note from Fruitlands catalog of 1861, that Mr. Berckmans had imported 24 varieties of camellias and over 40 varieties of azaleas, both of which were to prove so very popular with gardeners in the south. *Osmanthus fortunei* was imported about 1880 from Japan.

Such was the background of Mr. R. C. Berckmans, who was to serve as the leader of SNA at the end of the first decade of the Twentieth century. Born into a family of plantmen, he became the head of this great firm, worthy of his heritage.

### **W. A. Easterly - 1911 \***

W. A. Easterly, SNA president in 1911, was born in Russell County, Virginia in 1866 and died September 9, 1953. He was married to Gertrude Denton and this couple had three daughters, Lucille Easterly Gaskin, Phyllis Easterly Ivy and Augusta Easterly Varnell.



Mr. Easterly came to Cleveland, Tennessee in 1885 and began selling nursery stock in 1888 for Spring City Nursery Company of which Fraser and Lippincott, Huntsville, Alabama were proprietors. Mr. Easterly started out as a fruit tree salesman walking through the East Tennessee Mountains selling from a plate book in the summer and delivering at the railroad stations in the fall. Many times he received gold in payment. He worked about three years for them and then in 1891 worked a year for the Alabama Nursery Company. In 1892 he was employed

by D. H. Patty, Geneva, New York, for a short period and then returned to the Alabama Nursery Company. The following year he began working for the Fraser Nurseries and continued through 1900 when he established the Easterly Nurseries at Cleveland, Tennessee. His company operated both as a wholesale and a landscape operation. His son-in-law, John Varnell, later took over the nursery in 1945.

Mr. Easterly was one of the original group that organized the Southern Nurserymen's Association in 1899. He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen and the Tennessee Association of Nurserymen.

### **E. W. Chattin - 1912 \***

E. W. Chattin, SNA president in 1912, was born in Meigs County, Tennessee on September 10, 1868. He died at his home in Winchester in February, 1946. He was married to Ellen Elizabeth Shadow and they had eight children, Murrell Emmett, John Herbert, Ora Ellen, Dimple Gladys, Edward Earl, Walter P., Alma Louise and Chester Coles Chattin. His son Edward Earl Chattin, following in his father's footsteps became president of SNA in 1936, and another son, Coles Chattin, was a member of the Supreme Court of Tennessee.



Mr. E. W. Chattin was president of the Southern Nursery and Landscape Company, an enterprise which was originally organized in 1872 at Winchester by Mr. M. J. Shadow and was known as the Cedar Hill Nursery.

E. W. Chattin was educated in the public schools of Jackson County, Alabama. In addition to his activities in the nursery business, he was a director of the Farmers National Bank and for 16 years was mayor of the City of Winchester. He served on the Democratic Executive Committee, was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a Mason, a member of the Shrine, and also a member of the Knights of Pythias. For four years he served on the executive committee of the American Association of Nurserymen.

### **O. Joe Howard - 1913 \***

O. Joe Howard, SNA president in 1913, served a second time in this capacity ten years later, in 1923. He was born in Greensboro North Carolina in 1877 and died in 1967. He was married to Celestia Hunter. Their family consisted of one girl and three boys.

Mr. Howard belonged to the firm of Lindley Nursery Company of Greensboro, North Carolina and later became associated with the Howell Nursery Company of Knoxville, Tennessee when he and the Howells formed the nursery firm of Howard-Hickory Nursery Company of Hickory, North Carolina. Subsequently, he disposed of this operation and returned to the Lindley Nursery Company.

## **H. M. Templeton, Sr. - 1914 \***

H. M. Templeton, Sr., SNA president in 1914, was born April 29, 1876 in Beech Grove, Tennessee. He died March 6, 1960. Mr. Templeton was married to Vella Handley and had two sons, Harvey Maxwell Templeton, Jr., and John Marks Templeton. He worked for a time for the Southern Nursery and Landscape Company of Winchester and also was a stockholder in this firm.



Mr. Templeton was a man of many talents. He was a lawyer, dealt extensively in real estate, owned and ran a cotton gin, and was a cotton buyer as well as a cotton grower. His son, Harvey, Jr., received SNA's highest honor, the Slater Wight Memorial Award, in 1962.

## **R. C. Simpson - 1915 \***

R. C. Simpson, SNA president in 1915, was born in Vincennes, Indiana, in 1884 and died in 1967. He was married to Emala Parkhill and they had one daughter, Frances.

Mr. Simpson was the founder of the Simpson Nursery Company, of Monticello, Florida, and was a wholesale grower. He attended Cornell University; was a member of AAN and locally, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Monticello.

## **A. I. Smith - 1916 \***

Mr. A. I. Smith, SNA president in 1916, was born in Union County, Tennessee December 24, 1876. He died October 20, 1953. He was married in 1899 to Martha Dew and had three children, Mrs. Helen Buckner, Mrs. Marion White and Ross Smith. The two daughters survive.



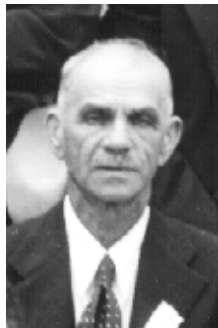
Martha Dew Smith was the daughter of a Knoxville nurseryman and shortly after her marriage to Mr. Smith her father died. A. I. Smith took over the operation of the nursery which was located at Powell, Tennessee, on land now (1974) owned by the Broadacre Dairy. Mr. Smith later organized another nursery known as Treeville and soon became associated with Mr. Nathan Hale in a third operation in Georgia.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Hale operated as associates until the 1920's, selling for the most part fruit trees and berries. In addition to his nursery business Mr. Smith founded and was president of the Avondale Farms Creamery in 1903 and served in this capacity until his death in 1953.

In working his way through college, Mr. Smith taught school from time to time. He received a B.S. Degree from Holbrook College and took his Masters Degree at Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville. He was president of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association in 1911, was a member of the Rotary Club of Knoxville and was a member of the First Baptist Church.

## **Harry Nicholson - 1917 \***

Harry Nicholson, SNA president in 1917, was born in Chilton on the Downs, Berkshire, England on December 7, 1863, and died in Decherd, Tennessee on December 7, 1952. He came to America about 1870 and was the older brother of T. N. Nicholson, father of Hubert Nicholson, both of whom became presidents of the Southern Nurserymen's Association. He and his wife, Mary Norton Graham, had five children, Bessie, Edna, Doris, Harry and Mary.

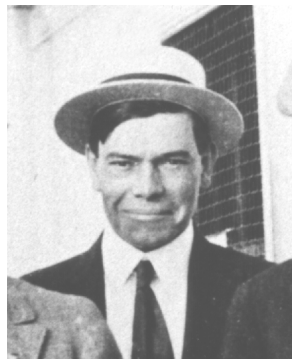


Mr. Harry Nicholson was one of the founders of the Commercial Nursery Company in Decherd, and originally specialized in the production and marketing of fruit trees.

He was a member of AAN and the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association. He was president at one time of the Decherd Civitan Club, and served on the board of the Decherd Methodist Church for over 50 years.

## **O. W. Fraser - 1918 \***

O. W. Fraser, SNA president in 1918, was born in Huntsville Alabama. September 6, 1887. He is married to the former Rebecca Otey and they had six children, five daughters and one son. He was the owner and operator of the Fraser Nurseries, Inc., of Birmingham, Alabama, and operated a landscaping business, under the name of O. W. Fraser Nursery located at 1330 S. 33rd Street, Birmingham, Alabama.



Mr. Fraser, uncle of John Fraser III of Huntsville (Huntsville Wholesale Nurseries), was a member of AAN, the Alabama Nurserymen's Association and at one time was the president of the Birmingham Nurserymen's Association.

At various times in his long career, he was the originator of many horticultural forms of hollies, particularly of the cornuta group, but his greatest achievement was *Photinia fraseri*, a hardy and highly ornamental form of this broadleaf evergreen, which proved to be of great landscaping value.

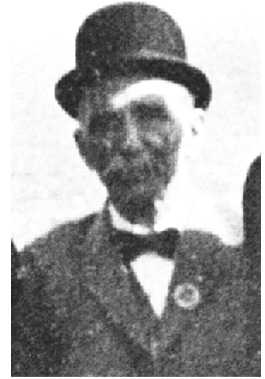
## **H. Cobb Caldwell - 1919 \***

H. Cobb Caldwell, SNA president in 1919, was born in Zebulon, Georgia, in 1870. He died in 1949. He was married to Mary Virginia Ashford and they had two children, William Caldwell and Howell Caldwell.

Mr. Caldwell was the owner of the Ashford Park Nurseries of Atlanta, a concern which did a general nursery business. A former AAN member, he was active in the Rotary Club of Atlanta and the Capitol City Club.

## **Samuel Watson Crowell - 1920 \***

Samuel Watson Crowell, SNA president in 1920, was born in Charlotte, North Carolina in 1866. He was married to the former Willibet Bynun of Walls, Mississippi, who was a school teacher in Huntsville, Alabama, where Mr. Crowell was employed in the nursery business.



In 1910, Mr. Crowell, together with John Good and Edwin Houk of Springfield, Ohio, and a Mr. Murphy of Urbana, Illinois, formed the United States Nursery Company. They located in Coahoma County, near the town of Rich, Mississippi. The nursery is reputed to have had a post office, express and freight office at Roseacres, Mississippi, although in recent years, no such town is listed by the postal department.

The plantation itself contained some 3,500 acres of land of which 700 acres were devoted to nursery stock, greenhouses and packing sheds. Also, the nursery operated a commissary and sold nursery stock both wholesale and retail.

Mr. Crowell was president and general manager until his death at the age of 54 in 1920. His wife died two years later and both are buried in the Elmwood Cemetery in Memphis, Tenn. After Mrs. Crowell's death the nursery was sold and the land was operated as a farm.

## **Paul C. Lindley - 1921 \***

Paul C. Lindley, SNA president in 1921, was born April 27, 1877 in Pomona, North Carolina. He died on June 10, 1933. He was married twice, first to Mabel Glen, and second to Helen Gunn. He was the father of six children, John V., Paul C., Jr., Turner Van, Henrietta, J. Thomas and James. He was the son of J. Van Lindley, Sr.



Mr. Lindley was associated with his father's nursery and in 1926, changed the name of the business to the Lindley Nurseries Company Inc., when he became president succeeding his father in the management of this old and respected firm, which, at his death in 1933, had continued in an unbroken line from father to son for three generations. It is directly descended from the New Garden Nurseries established in 1850 by Joshua Lindley, and was probably the first North Carolina Nursery undertaking to supply growing trees to the planters of that state.

Elected to the presidency of the American Association of Nurserymen in 1922 at its convention in Detroit, he also served on numerous AAN committees, was very active in the Southern Nurserymen's Association and just a few weeks before his death by accidental drowning in 1933 he was one of the organizers of the North Carolina Nurserymen's Association.

He was mayor of Greensboro for two years. He was president of the Ornamental Growers Association and a director of the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company, and the Greensboro Fire Insurance Company, a Rotarian, and he served one term as president of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce.

### **C. A. Simpson - 1922 \***

C. A. Simpson, SNA president in 1922, was born in Vincennes, Indiana in 1878 and died on June 18, 1958. He was married to Martha Fricke Simpson and they had three sons, Richard, Stuart and John.

Mr. Simpson was one of the owners of Simpson Nursery Company of Monticello, Florida, and was a wholesale grower. Educated at Purdue University, he was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, the Southern Seed Association and the Florida Seed Association.

His civic activities included the Kiwanis Club of Monticello of which he was a past president.

### **O. Joe Howard - 1923 \***

See biography O. Joe Howard - 1913.

### **Walter W. Hillenmeyer - 1924 \***

Walter W. Hillenmeyer, SNA president in 1924, was born in 1890 in Lexington, Kentucky. As a young man, he attended the University of Kentucky and was president of the American Association of Nurserymen in 1927 at the age of 37. He died at the AAN Convention in Cincinnati in 1935.

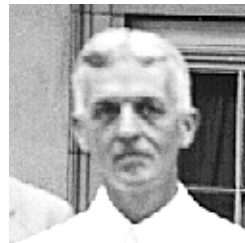
Married to Marie Reiling, this couple had four sons, Walter W., Jr., Herbert F., Henry R. and Donald J. Hillenmeyer. Mr. W. W. Hillenmeyer Sr., was one of the owners of the Hillenmeyer Nurseries in Lexington, pioneer nurserymen in Kentucky.

Mr. Hillenmeyer was a member of the Kentucky Nurserymen's Association, president of the Kiwanis Club of Lexington and vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce of that city.



## **J.G. Bailie - 1925 \***

J. G. Bailie, SNA president in 1925, was born in Augusta, Georgia, in 1883. He died in 1970. His wife was the former Carrie Olivia Silcox and they had two daughters, Sue Walker, now Mrs. Lester C. Helm, and Carrie Silcox, now Mrs. Preston Ruckholt.



He was connected with the Fruitland Nurseries of Augusta, Georgia, and was a graduate of Wofford College. He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, the Georgia and the South Carolina Nurserymen's Associations. Locally, he was a member of the Rotary Club.

## **Lee McClain - 1926 \***

Lee McClain, SNA president in 1926, was born June 21, 1886 in Knox County, Tennessee. His parents were Andrew and Jane Reddy McClain and he was one of eight children.

Upon his father's death, he, at the age of seven, went to work for the Knoxville Nursery Company operated by a Mr. Newson, to help support his mother. He walked a total of 22 miles to and from work each day and received a salary of 35¢ per day. He attended school at an ungraded one-room schoolhouse until he received their certificate. He became manager of the Knoxville Nursery Company and married the late Maude Grubbs McClain at the age of 22. In 1916, Mr. McClain returned to Knoxville where he and the Howell brothers operated a nursery on Washington Pike for a brief period of time.

In 1920, Mr. McClain purchased land for his own Washington Heights Nurseries in Knoxville, which he operated until his death on December 26, 1958.

Mr. and Mrs. McClain had six children, one daughter and five sons. All of the sons worked with their father in the nursery business. Otis and Verlin are deceased. Kent, Curtis, Jack and Mrs. Wila McClain Shafter survive and live in Knoxville. Most of the old nursery is industrially developed and called Norwood; however, son Kent operated Kent McClain Nurseries, and grandson James operated Jim McClain Landscape Services on the original property.

Among other accomplishments in pioneering the nursery business, Lee McClain was instrumental in getting a uniform inspection law passed for shipping tags, he developed a semi-sweet cherry, and invented a tree digger and spray cart. He was well known as a civic leader and developer in Knoxville and Sharp's Ridge Memorial Park is dedicated in his honor. He had 15 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren and 3 great-great grandchildren.

## **John Fraser, Jr. - 1927 \***

John Fraser, Jr., SNA president in 1927, was the son of John Fraser, Sr., nurseryman, the founder in 1873 of the Fraser Nursery Company in Huntsville, Alabama, who was born near Edinburgh Scotland, graduated from Kew and came to the United States just at the close of the Civil War.



John, Jr., was born August 28, 1885 at Gladstone, Alabama, and his mother was Margaret Muir Fraser. He received little formal education as a child, spent eleven years as secretary of the Fraser Nursery Company, before transferring to the Huntsville Wholesale Nurseries in 1918. He later became secretary-treasurer and in 1934 became president of the firm.

In 1907, he was married to the former Frances Vaughn of Monrovia, Alabama. There were two children, John III born 1909 and Margaret Fraser Sparkman, born in 1908, both of whom became associated with the Huntsville Wholesale Nurseries.

John Fraser, Jr. was a thirty-second degree Mason, Knight Templar, Shriner and in 1930-31 was president of the American Association of Nurserymen, after having served as vice-president and previously as a member of the Crown Gall and Quarantine Committee.

## **Charles Theodore Smith - 1928 \***

See biography Charles Theodore Smith - 1905 .

## **T. Norman Nicholson - 1929 \***

Mr. T. Norman Nicholson was born in Decherd, Tennessee in the year 1875. He died in 1965, and even though almost ninety years of age, was a familiar sight striding about the ground of the Commercial Nursery directing the many phases of its operation. He was married to the former Bessie S. Forster, a native of Virginia. They had three sons Thomas N. Nicholson, Jr., who is a past president of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association, as is Hubert Nicholson. The third son, Donald F. Nicholson, was president of the Austin Feed and Seed Co., of Chattanooga, Tennessee.



Mr. T. N. Nicholson, Sr., president of SNA in 1929, was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, past president of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association and at one time was mayor of the City of Decherd. He also was a ruling Elder of the Presbyterian Church.



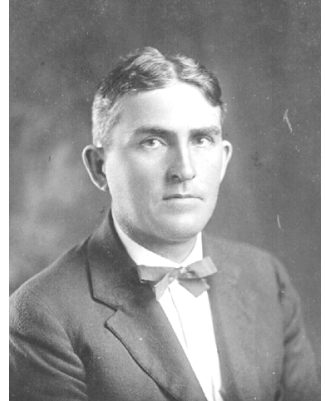
Historically, Norman Nicholson and his brother Harry, represent an early and almost forgotten phase of the nursery business - the production and marketing of fruit trees. Many of our current nurserymen produce fruit trees but not to the exclusion of all other types of plants as was the case in the 1890's and the early 1900's.

Harry and Norman Nicholson started growing and selling for themselves in 1900 and named their effort Commercial Nursery Company. Prior to this time, they sold trees for Southern Nursery Company of Winchester and even earlier worked for the Brittan Nursery at Estill Springs, Tennessee, where their father, John Nicholson, was the bookkeeper and they, as young boys, grew up on the nursery. They started growing fruit trees for commercial orchardists and homeowners, selling through agents in southeastern states. They would buy new buggies in Shelbyville every year and take two horses for every buggy, get on the river boat in Nashville and go down the Cumberland, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to Louisiana, Arkansas and Mississippi, sell their orders, then sell their buggies and horses, get on the train, come home, dig and pack the trees, buy new buggies and horses and start all over again.

In the year 1974 A. D., when jet planes, super highways and moon probing rockets are part of our every day life, it is hard for us to visualize an era when the horse and buggy and woodburning side-wheelers could be an integral part of the nursery business. But we can be proud that SNA has honored Norman Nicholson for his ninety years of devotion to the nursery business, ninety years of hard work, the great depression, shattering changes and finally prosperity!

### **S. R. Howell - 1930 \***

Mr. S. R. Howell was born September 20, 1875, in Knoxville, Tennessee, at the original home place of the Howell family on Howell Ridge Road. He died in Knoxville, January 31, 1944. He was married to the former Grace Mount and they had two children, Martha Lynn and Dorothy.



The original nursery business was begun in 1786 when the family emigrated to Tennessee, and has been operated by some member of the Howell family since that date. Mr. S. R. Howell entered the business in 1916. It was a corporation at that time and he was the secretary and general manager.

Associated with him were his four brothers, Carroll Sylvania, Bruce, Cole and Fletcher. At Mr. S. R. Howell's death he was succeeded by his brother Cole, who in turn was succeeded by Mr. Bryan Howell, who owns and operates the business at the original location on Boyds Bridge Road.

During the productive years of Mr. S. R. Howell, the firm of Howell Nurseries, became a far flung operation, with branches in Charleston, South Carolina; Charlotte, North Carolina; Leesburg, Florida; Hickory, North Carolina; Bristol, Virginia; and Chattanooga, Nashville, Sweetwater, Wolf Creek and Jefferson County in Tennessee.

Little is known concerning the branch in Charleston, South Carolina. The operations in Wolf Creek and Jefferson County were simple growing locations used for some years and abandoned for economic reasons. The Sweetwater location was actually an integral part of the Knoxville operation and was for many years under the management of Mr. Bruce Howell. The Nashville, Tennessee location was wholly owned by Howell.

The other operations were set up on a different basis. The Howell Nurseries undertook to stock a local operator with salable stock and liners to set out a determined acreage in exchange for stock in the new corporation. In Charlotte, North Carolina, Howell dealt with Mr. W. C. Daniels and formed the Mecklenberg and Corley Island Nurseries. The Corley Island division was located in Leesburg, Florida and Mr. Howell sent Richard H. Jones to Leesburg as manager. The Corley Island company was sold in less than a year and later Mr. Daniels bought out the Howell interest in Mecklenberg.

A similar deal in Hickory, North Carolina involved Mr. O. Joe Howard in the formation of the Howard-Hickory Nursery, which was later sold to Mr. Howard in its entirety.

In Chattanooga, Tennessee, Howell formed the Lookout Mountain Nursery with Mr. Fritz Grindler and Mr. Fred Landis buying control after a few years of association with the Howell group. A similar venture in Bristol, Virginia involved the Howell Nursery with Mr. Owen Wood in organizing the Wood-Howell Nurseries. In 1928 the Nashville branch was organized and Mr. Richard H. Jones was sent from Knoxville to be its manager. Mr. Jones served in this position until 1938, at which time he purchased the nursery and organized the Jones Ornamental Nursery. It is interesting to note that Mr. W. C. Daniels, Mr. O. Joe Howard, Mr. Owen Wood and Mr. Richard Jones all served as President of the Southern Nurserymen's Association as time went on.

The horticulturist amongst the five brothers responsible for this huge nursery complex was Mr. Bruce Howell. During his time with the company in Knoxville, but more especially under his direction at Sweetwater, Howell Nurseries produced many new varieties of plants including weeping privet (*Ligustrum sinensis pendula*) *Cornus florida rubrum* "Sweetwater" and its companion plant, the first so-called red dogwood "Cherokee Chief." Also *Ilex cornuta* "Burfordi" was discovered by Bruce Howell and was introduced by him to the nursery industry.

Mr. S. R. Howell was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Knoxville.

## **J. Slater Wight - 1931 \***

J. Slater Wight, SNA president in 1931, was born November 15, 1890 in Cairo, Georgia and died October 18, 1954. He and his wife, the former Azzlee Moor, had four daughters and one son. He was one of the owners of the Wight Nurseries and Orchard Company of Cairo.

Mr. Wight attended Emory University, where he received a B.S. Degree and later received his Master of Science Degree at Cornell University. He was a member of the AAN, the Southeastern Pecan Growers Association and was president of the Southeastern Tung Oil Association.



Slater Wight was very active in the Methodist Church and at one time was treasurer of the South Georgia Conference. He was a president of the Citizens Bank of Cairo, the Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis Club.

## **Charles Richard Stephens - 1932 \***

Charles Richard Stephens, SNA President in 1932, was born in Pelham, Georgia on October 1, 1892, and died February 25, 1963. He was married to Annie Myrtie Wolf and they had four sons, Charles Elwood, James, Douglas and Robert. He was educated at the Draughn's Business College.



At the time he was president of SNA, he was with Glen St. Mary's Nursery at Glen St. Mary, Florida. In 1935 he spent six months as a horticultural advisor in Venezuela. He returned to the United States to become manager of the Semmes Nurseries (Kiyono) from 1937 until after World War II, when he founded the Stephens Nursery of Semmes, Alabama.

Mr. Stephens, known to the trade as "Pete," was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen and the Florida Nursery and Growers Association. He was a Mason, and a Rotarian. He belonged to the Lions Club and served as the chairman of the school board of Baker County, Florida.

## Owen G. Wood - 1933 \*

Owen Gray Wood was born November 4, 1902 at Bristol, Tennessee, son of William Martin Wood, nurseryman, merchant and orchardist. He attended the public schools in Bristol; was graduated from high school in 1921; then spent a year at Washington and Lee University, 1921-22.

He and Margaret Hayes were married November 10, 1922, at Bristol. They had one son, Owen Gray, Jr., born in 1925.



Mr. Wood was a Rotarian, an Elk, a member of the Washington County Development Association, and of the Retail Merchants Association of Bristol, Virginia. He has served as Supreme Recorder, Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. Since 1934, Owen had served as Chairman of the School Trustee Electoral Board of Washington County, receiving repeated appointments. This board had sole responsibility of naming the members of the county school board.

His year as president of the American Association of Nurserymen (1939-40) followed several years of service on such committees as Nursery Cost Finding, Reorganization and Revitalization, and the Committee on Federal and State Nurseries. He served on the Executive committee of AAN 1936-41 and as treasurer from 1938 to 1940. In 1938-39 he served as vice-president. During the years 1931-1935, he held all offices of the Virginia Nurserymen's Association, and from 1930 to 1934 he held all offices of the Southern Nurserymen's Association, serving as president of both these organizations in 1932-33. Following his term as president, Owen continued active in AAN affairs, serving for six years (1941-47) as National Councilor to the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

He was first employed as salesman with Globe Nurseries, Bristol, and it was as salesman that he joined forces with the Howell Nurseries of Knoxville in 1919. He became the owner-manager-president of the Wood-Howell Nurseries, Inc. of Bristol, Virginia. Owen also was owner of the Wood's Skyland Nurseries, Poplar, North Carolina, specializing in plants indigenous to the southern highlands. He also owned and operated nurseries on Treasure Island, Leesburg, Florida, where azaleas and camellias were the specialty.

Owen was the author of the first plan for the reorganization and revitalization of AAN, presenting a proposal for a federation of state, regional and national associations to the Southern Nurserymen's Association in 1933. He was later to be an active member of the reorganization committee of SNA, and contributed materially to the successful accomplishment of its objective.

At the time of his death in April, 1963, Mr. Wood was survived by his second wife, Vivian Horton Wood.

## **L. M. Jones - 1934 \***

L. M. Jones, SNA president in 1934, was a Virginia nurseryman who in addition to being active in SNA, was also the first president of the Virginia Nurserymen's Association which was organized in 1932.

Mr. Jones, known throughout the trade as "Parson" Jones, was the proprietor of the Norfolk Nurseries which was operated under this name between 1927 and 1936. The nursery consisted of 35 acres of fruit trees and ornamentals and was located in the Diamond Springs area of Norfolk County.

## **W. L. Monroe - 1935 \***

W. L. Monroe, SNA president in 1935, was born November 8, 1891, in Biscoe, North Carolina, and died October 22, 1965. He and his wife, the former Ila Smith, had one daughter, Evelyn M. Williams and one son, William L. Monroe, Jr.

Mr. Monroe was the owner and operator of Monroe's Landscape and Nursery Company of 2067 Manchester Road, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia. He specialized in commercial and residential landscaping.



A graduate of Elm College, he also attended Duke University and Cornell University. He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, the Georgia Nurserymen's Association and the Men's Garden Club of Atlanta.

## **Edward E. Chattin - 1936 \***

Edward E. Chattin, SNA President in 1936, was born in Winchester, Tennessee, in 1900. He was married to the late Ethel McDowell and they had one daughter, Charlotte.

Mr. Chattin received his education at Baylor School in Chattanooga, Tennessee. His company, the Southern Nursery and Landscape Company, grew a general line of nursery stock for the wholesale trade, specializing in Kwansan cherries grown from rooted cuttings, other flowering trees and fruit trees of all kinds. Mr. Chattin was also a real estate agent and a dealer in stocks and bonds.



He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, the Wholesale Fruit Growers Association, the Tennessee and the Middle Tennessee Nurserymen's Associations. He was also a member of the Civitan Club and the Chamber of Commerce of Winchester.

## **Richard H. Jones - 1937 \***

Richard H. Jones received the Slater Wight Memorial Award in 1957, after having been president of the Southern Nurserymen's Association 20 years previously. He was a native of Nashville, Tennessee, and attended the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where he received a B. S. Degree in Agriculture. In 1923 he played football for his Alma Mater after having served his country in World War I in the U. S. Marine Corps, stationed variously in France and Germany. After leaving the university he taught school for several years before becoming associated with the Howell Nurseries of Knoxville. This company sent him to Leesburg, Florida to operate their branch and there he met and married Norma Claire Sanders. This couple has two children, a daughter, Elaine Dunning and a son, Richard N. Jones.



In 1928, the parent Howell Company established a branch in Nashville, Tennessee, and moved Mr. Jones to that city as manager. In 1938 he bought out the Howell interests at its permanent location on Hobbs and Estes Road. In 1960, he sold the land and the business to the Geddes Douglas Garden Center of Nashville.

Dick Jones has been a diligent worker for the betterment of the nursery industry. He is a past president of the American Association of Nurserymen, the Southern Nurserymen's Association, the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association and the Nashville Nurserymen's Association. He was a member of the National Landscape and Nursery Association, the B.P.O.E., and the American Legion.

In his work for SNA, Mr. Jones fought a long and successful battle for greater membership in the association and for industry growth in general. He was active in the incorporation of SNA in 1955, and participated in certain by-law changes at that time. Over the years, he was a moving force in the fight against unjust tax infringement by the several states, particularly in Tennessee. Lastly, he was the leader in a movement to upgrade the horticultural programs in the several state universities in the 14 states comprising the territory of SNA.

## **C. M. Smith - 1938 \***

C. M. Smith, SNA President in 1938, was born in Concord Georgia, February 20, 1901. He died June 18, 1957. He was married to Lynda Lewis and they had one son. Mr. Smith attended Gordon College in Barnsville, Georgia.

Mr. C. M. Smith was a member of the Georgia Nurserymen's Association, The American Association of Nurserymen, the Lions Club, the Christian Church, and for a number of years was mayor of the town of Concord.

He was the son of J. H. Smith, one of the founders of the Smith Brothers Nursery and succeeded his uncle, C. T. Smith, as president of that well known nursery. Smith Brothers Nursery specialized in the production of magnolia trees. Thousands of these trees, grown

from seed harvested from several specimen trees in the yard of the Smith homeplace on the main street of Concord, were shipped into the Atlanta area and, in fact, all over the south.

These great trees, with their broad, glossy leaves, serve as a living memorial to an old and respected firm, now no longer in existence.

### **J. Yates Killian - 1939 \***

J. Yates Killian, SNA president in 1939, was born October 5, 1874, and spent his life in Catawba County, North Carolina. He owned and operated, until his death on September 2, 1953, the Killian Nursery, which had been started by his father prior to 1900. He was married to Mary Applewhite and they had one daughter, Katherine Killian Stennett, who lived in Charlotte, North Carolina. Mr. Killian was a graduate of Lenoir Rhyne College in Hickory, North Carolina.

Mr. Killian was very active in civic affairs. He served on the board of directors of the Shuford National Bank of Catawba County and for over 25 years was chairman of the County School Board. Mr. Killian was a lifetime deacon in the First Baptist Church in Newton, North Carolina, and taught the men's Bible class there for many years. In addition, he was a member of the North Carolina Association of Nurserymen and was the first president of the Catawba County Historical Association.

### **John B. Wight, Jr. - 1940 \***

John B. Wight, SNA president in 1940, was born February 2, 1904 in Cairo, Georgia. He died on May 16, 1969. He was married to the former Elizabeth Allen and they had one son, John B. III, and one daughter, Elizabeth W. Herbert of Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

With his brother, the late Slater Wight, John B. Wight owned and operated the Wight Nurseries of Cairo. His son, John B. Wight, III., continued the nursery, a large wholesale firm, primarily devoted to the production of container grown plants.

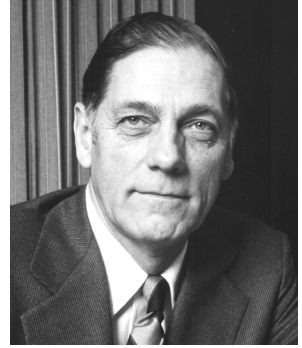


John Wight attended Emory University and received a B.S. degree and later spent one year at Georgia Institute of Technology.

In 1956, Mr. Wight established the Slater Wight Memorial Award in memory of his brother. This award is continued by John B. Wight, Jr. In addition to serving as president of SNA, Mr. Wight also was president of the American Association of Nurserymen in 1941-42, the Georgia Nurserymen's Association, the Cairo Rotary Club in 1953, Chamber of Commerce and the Cairo Kiwanis Club in 1937. He also served on the All American Camellia Selection Committee and was a member of the First Methodist Church of Cairo.

## **Walter W. Hillenmeyer, Jr. - 1941 \***

Walter W. Hillenmeyer, Jr., SNA president in 1941, was born in Lexington, Kentucky, in 1917. His wife was the former Frances Woods and they had five children, Marie, Harriet, Edward, Walter W. III, and Frances.



From 1936, to 1964, Mr. Hillenmeyer served as one of the partners of the Hillenmeyer Nurseries. He then became a banker and served as the president of the First Security National Bank and Trust Company of Lexington. He was also a director of that institution, as well as being on the board of the Lexington Federal Savings and Loan Association, the Kentucky-American Water Company, St. Joseph's Hospital and the Kentucky Utilities Commission.

He was a graduate of the University of Kentucky.

## **Tom Dodd, Sr. - 1942 & 1943 \***

Founder and owner of the Tom Dodd Nurseries, Mr. Dodd was born in 1889 and died at the age of 75 on September 20, 1964. He was a native of Alabama and had lived in Mobile for over 70 years. He was a past president of the Alabama Nurserymen's Association, and a past member of the Board of Governors of the American Association of Nurserymen. In 1959 he was the recipient of the Slater Wight Award, given by the Southern Nurserymen's Association for outstanding contribution to the welfare of the industry. Mr. Dodd was also a Mason, being a member of Abba Temple of the Shrine, and a member of the Mobile Chapter of Eastern Star. His civic activities included P.T.A. service and membership in the Semmes Civic Club and the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Dodd was also a deacon of the Semmes Baptist Church.



He started the nursery after purchase of property with his sister, Mrs. Fred Welch, to carry on contract growing as Dodd and Welch. He purchased his sister's interest in 1926, changing the firm name to Tom Dodd Nurseries. After obtaining land to bring the nursery's total to 320 acres and constructing some lath and glass facilities, Mr. Dodd specialized in azaleas and camellias. At the beginning of World War II, he started growing broad-leaved evergreens exclusively. Tom Dodd, Jr., vice-president of the firm has held an active part in the nursery management in recent years, being active as well in association work.

Mr. Dodd was married to Pauline Pound Dodd at the time of his death. He had seven sons and one daughter and thirty-three grandchildren.



## **M. L. Harkey - 1944 & 1945 \***

M. L. Harkey, SNA President in 1944 and 1945, was born November 28, 1898, in Charlotte, North Carolina. He was married to Alma Harkey and they had one son, the Reverend M. L. Harkey, Jr. He was the proprietor of the Harkey Nurseries.

He attended both Erskine College and North Carolina State University. He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen and the North Carolina Nurserymen's Association.



Mr. Harkey served on the zoning board of adjustment for the city of Charlotte, was a member of the Oasis Temple Directors Staff for 26 years, and a Director of the Royal Order of Jesters.

Looking back on his two terms as president of SNA, Mr. Harkey says that the problem of that period was twofold-keeping up interest among the membership during the difficult war years and secondly, keeping a reasonable financial position so that SNA might resume its activities in the postwar period.

## **Henry N. Boyd - 1946**

Henry N. Boyd, SNA president in 1946, was born January 23, 1917. He is married to the former Rhea Bragg. Henry is a third generation nurseryman, from a family of nurserymen, in a nurserymen's county - Warren County, Tennessee. He is president of the Boyd Nursery Company of McMinnville and three of his brothers serve as the other officers.

The late J. H. H. Boyd, grandfather of Henry N. Boyd, entered the nursery business in 1877. The Boyd Nursery Company, Inc. and the Forest Nursery Company, Inc., both of McMinnville, Tennessee, are the direct result of the varied nursery activities of J. H. H. Boyd. Both go back in history and experience to 1887. F. C. Boyd, Sr., father of Henry H. Boyd, was the son of J. H. H. Boyd, and he became president of Boyd Nursery Company, Inc. Since the death of F. C. Boyd, Sr., Boyd Nursery Company, Inc., has been operated by his sons with Henry Boyd serving as president.



On December 31, 1973, Boyd Nursery Company merged with Harvest Corporation of Nashville, Tennessee. In announcing the merger, Henry N. Boyd stated that Harvest Corporation will serve as the holding company and Boyd Nursery as the operating company.

Henry was educated in the city and county schools, the Bowling Green Business College, Bowling Green, Kentucky, and the Freed-Hardeman College, Henderson, Tennessee.

Mr. Boyd is a man of wide public interests and has had the time, means, and inclination to be of tremendous benefit to his home town, county and state.

His activities include the McMinnville Jaycees, the Rotary Club, the McMinnville Chamber of Commerce, the University of Tennessee Space Institute Support Council and the Republican Party in Tennessee.

He is a past president of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association, and is a director of the First National Bank of McMinnville. He has served as Treasurer of the Westwood Church Of Christ, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Botanical Gardens in Nashville, Tennessee.

Mr. Boyd is a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, and the Southern Nurserymen's Association, the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association and the Middle Tennessee Nurserymen's Association.

### **Henry Homer Chase - 1947 \***

Henry Homer Chase was born in Huntsville, Alabama in 1914. He was married to the former Elizabeth Withers Leftwich and they had two children, H. H. Case, Jr. and Emily Chase Cook. He was a graduate of Bowdoin College and president of the Chase Nursery Company, of Chase, Alabama, a firm engaged in the wholesale nursery business for many years. In later years, they have added a garden center operation and landscaping business, serving the city of Huntsville and the surrounding areas.

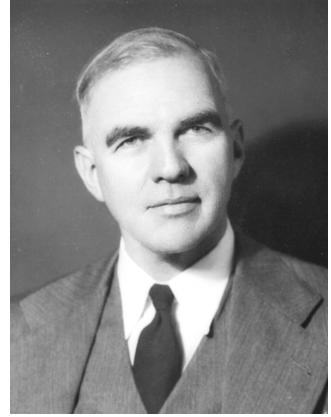


Mr. Chase was a member of American Association of Nurserymen, the Alabama Nurserymen's Association and served as president of the Huntsville Rotary Club. Of the many honors that have come his way, he is proudest of the Silver Beaver Award, Boy Scouts of America.

Henry Homer was an inveterate conventioner. He was always there and there was never any doubt about it. He was an able speaker, quick to ferret out the basic facts of any association problem and even quicker to coin a pertinent witticism to its content, but always with a certain seriousness underneath. We asked Mr. Chase what was the chief problem concerning SNA during his presidency and we quote: "Lethargy", he said, "Had a tiger by the tail, and didn't know it. Dynamic, aggressive leadership was absent."

## **Donald M. Hastings, Sr. - 1948 \***

Donald M. Hastings, Sr. was born in 1901. He was married to the former Louise Brown and they had two children, Mary Louise (Mrs. T. Hal) Clarke and Donald M. Hastings, Jr. He served as president of Southern Seedsmen's Association, Georgia Rose Society, Men's Garden Clubs of Atlanta, Director of Men's Garden Clubs of America, co-author with his wife, Louise, of "The Southern Garden Book." Between school and college terms he worked in every department of the business established by his father, Mr. H. G. Hastings, in 1889 in Interlachen, Florida. The firm was moved to Atlanta, Georgia in 1899 in an effort to give a more central location to a fast growing mail order business specializing in field and garden seeds as well as nursery stock.



In 1915, Mr. W. Ray Hastings joined the firm and in addition served as Executive Director of the All-America Selections which was founded in Atlanta in 1932.

H. Stanley Hastings became associated with the firm after World War I, to be followed in 1922 by Mr. Donald M. Hastings who after graduation from the University of Georgia ("Cum Laude" with a B. S. Degree in Agriculture). Though originally engaged almost exclusively in the mail order business, in later years this firm has shifted its activities to the wholesale and retail nursery business. H. G. Hastings Company opened one of the first garden centers in the south in 1955. The firm was continued by his son, Donald M. Hastings, Jr., for a number of years until it was later sold to an outside party.

With reference to his SNA activities, his primary interest and concern was in the field of higher ethical standards within the entire nursery industry, working with SNA members leading the way.

## **Charles N. Morse - 1949 \***

Charles N. Morse, SNA president in 1949, was born in Lake Benton, Minnesota, in 1885. He died December 3, 1961. His wife was the former Lillian Varnell, and they had two children, Charles and Hilda Morse. Mr. Morse was one of the founders of Morse Brothers, Inc. of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Morse Brothers originally was a firm engaged in both the wholesale and retail nursery business. In later years, a garden center and greenhouse operation was added.



Mr. Charles N. Morse was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, a past president of the Georgia Nurserymen's Association, and a member of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association. He was a charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Chattanooga Valley.

## **William C. Daniels - 1950 \***

William C. Daniels, was born in 1893. He and his wife, Lois Barton Daniels, had one daughter, Mrs. Dwight C. Moore and three sons, W. C. Daniels, Jr., Dr. Perry C. Daniels and the Reverend Joe C. Daniels.

Mr. Daniels retired in 1968 after 40 years in the nursery business. For 20 years he was general manager of the Mecklenberg Nurseries, Inc., of Charlotte, North Carolina and for about the same length of time held the same position for the Lindley Nurseries, Inc. in Greensboro.



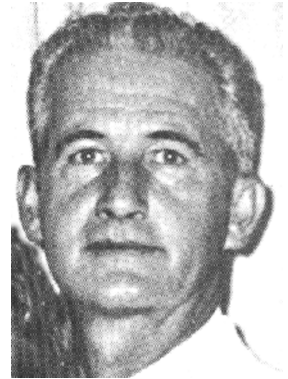
He served as president of the North Carolina Nurserymen's Association; on the Board of Governors of AAN and for more than 20 years was secretary of the Southern Nurserymen's Association. He was a member of the Lions Club both in Greensboro and in Charlotte, and is a member of the United Methodist Church.

## **Charles Elwood Stephens - 1951 \***

Charles Elwood Stephens, SNA president in 1952, was born in Macclenny, Florida, April 20, 1914. He was married to the former Katheryn Leonora Taylor and they had three children, Ann, Elwood and Charles.

He was educated in the schools of Macclenny and literally grew up in the nursery business, for he worked for his father at Glen St. Mary's and at Semmes.

In addition to SNA he was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, the Florida Nursery and Growers Association, and was associated with the Semmes Nurseries, of Semmes, Alabama.



During Mr. Stephens term as president, the practice of adding young nurserymen to the Board of Directors was instituted. This was in an effort to bring new blood to the Board and to add the viewpoint of the coming generation.

## **Allwin S. Gresham, Jr. - 1952 \***

Allwin S. (Ollie) Gresham, Jr., was born in 1906 and died February 8, 1969. He was the founder in 1933 of the Gresham Nurseries, 6821 Midlothian Pike, Richmond, Virginia.

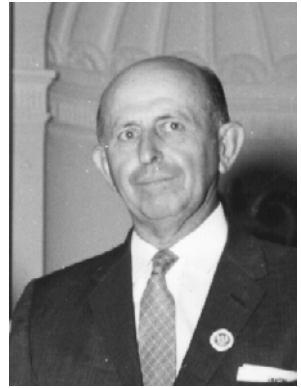
He was a past president of the American Association of Nurserymen, the Southern Nurserymen's Association and the Virginia Nurserymen's Association.

The Virginia Nurserymen's Association named him its "Nurseryman of the Year" in 1949. He received the first Slater Wight Memorial Award for outstanding service from the Southern Nurserymen's Association in 1956.

Mr. Gresham was a member of Westover Baptist Church.

His wife, Mrs. Ruby F. Gresham, died January 13, 1974. They are survived by a daughter, Miss Ann Elizabeth Gresham of Richmond.

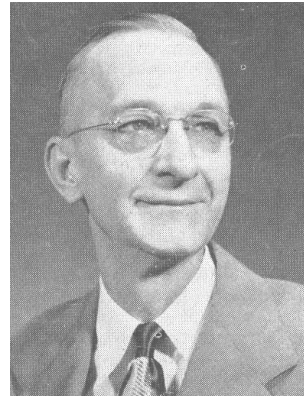
Beginning in 1950, he was the secretary of the Southern Nurserymen's Association, retiring in 1955. However, his main work in the association was in the legislative field and also in the incorporation of SNA, which was done in the State of Virginia largely under his direction. Also, he sponsored the issuing of the "Buyer's Guide", a service by SNA, which has been of inestimable value to the retail nurseryman.



## **James A. Stubbs - 1953 \***

James A. Stubbs, SNA president, in 1953, was born August 10, 1891, in Cochran, Georgia. He died January 26, 1967. He and his wife, the former Lillian Moore, had one son, James A. Stubbs, Jr. Mr. Stubbs was the owner of Eatonton Nurseries in Eatonton, Georgia, and later was associated with both the Monroe Landscape & Nursery Company, and the Frank A. Smith Nursery Company of Atlanta.

Mr. Stubbs attended Bradley University of Peoria, Illinois. He was a charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Eatonton and served as vice-president of that organization. Mr. Stubbs was also a Shriner.



## **Arthur N. Watson - 1954 \***

Arthur N. Watson, was born in Monticello, Florida in 1902. His wife was the former Joan Hiscock and they had no children.

Mr. Watson was the proprietor of the Monticello Nursery Company, a nursery engaged in both the wholesale and retail business. He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen and the Florida Nursery and Growers Association.

His activities outside the nursery business were numerous and included being mayor of Monticello for 17 years and president of the City Council for 16 years. He was also president of the Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the board of "Healthways, Inc." and a director of the Bank of Monticello.

Mr. Watson reported that his administration was handicapped by a low membership figure and a lack of booth space adjacent to the convention hall at the meeting in 1954 in Jacksonville, Florida.



## **Hoskins A. Shadow - 1955 \***

Hoskins A. Shadow was born in 1902 in Winchester, Tennessee, and was married to Minnie Lee Odom Shadow. They had three sons, Joe, Don and Fred. Hoskins attended the University of Tennessee in the early 1920's, but did not graduate. In 1940 and 1941 he was a planting superintendent for the Jones Ornamental Nursery in Nashville but left this position to complete the organization of the Tennessee Valley Nursery in Winchester.

He served as president of the American Association of Nurserymen, the Southern Nurserymen's Association and of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association. Shadow received the SNA Slater Wight Award in 1963 after having been president of SNA in 1955. He was a Rotarian, a trustee of the Franklin County Hospital, and a director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.

Mr. Shadow was active in the move to obtain a paid secretary for SNA. The first such was the replacement of Ollie Gresham in 1955, by Mr. Leo Scott of Spartanburg and later in the employment of Porter Henegar as a part time executive secretary. Mr. Shadow felt that SNA needed a full time man to promote membership gains, which were necessary for the healthy growth of the association.



Mr. Shadow was identified with those in the nursery business who were interested in bettering the trade ethics of the industry as a whole and in the improvement of the quality of the merchandise produced. Plants produced by Tennessee Valley Nursery have always been of the highest quality, particularly the many varieties of dogwoods grown by this firm.

### **George Sawada - 1956 \***

George Sawada, was born in Mobile, Alabama in 1920. He and his wife, Ruth Ward Sawada, had two children.

Mr. Sawada was a graduate of Auburn University and also of Cornell University of Ithaca, New York. He was also connected with the Parks Department of the city of Mobile, Alabama.

As president of SNA during the transitional period of the mid-fifties Mr. Sawada feels that his administration was faced with the unusual problems of trying to best service the needs of the average member and potential member. This was the period when the industry was changing much of its production from field grown to container grown stock; a period when the small business retailer was forced to cope with the big business merchandising methods of the supermarket, and a period when every business was beset by constantly worsening labor problems.



### **F. J. Aichele, Jr. - 1957 \***

F. J. Aichele, Jr., son of the late Frederick J. and Emma B. Aichele, was born in Charleston, South Carolina in 1916. He and his wife, Kathryn Caughman, had four daughters, Porter, Sally, Emmie and Ann. Mr. Aichele graduated from Clemson University in 1938 with a B. S. degree in Horticulture. He owned and operated Carolina Floral Nursery of Moncks Corner, South Carolina, which now operates as Carolina Nurseries, Inc.

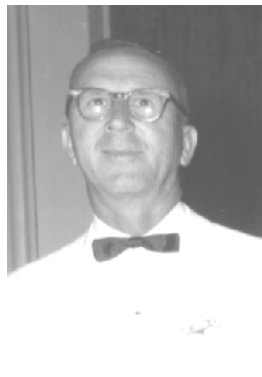
Mr. Aichele was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen and the South Carolina Nurserymen's Association.

The greatest problem that confronted him during his presidency reported Mr. Aichele, was trying to get the first trade show off to a good start. It was a winter trade show.



## **Dan Ferdinand Reynolds - 1958 \***

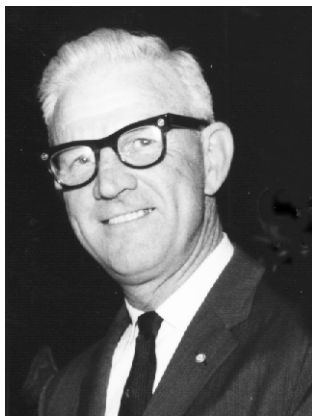
Dan Ferdinand Reynolds, was born in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, in 1908. He and his wife, the former Rosemary Toner, had two children, a daughter, Robin R. Reynolds and a son, Peter A. Reynolds.



Mr. Reynolds was secretary of L. A. Reynolds Company and general manager of the nursery and landscape department for 30 years. He was president of RevNol, Inc.. which was a real estate holding corporation, Vice-president of Reynolds Construction. He served as president of the North Carolina Nurserymen's Association and the Winston-Salem Lions Club. Other memberships include the Forsyth Country Club, Twin City Club, and Seven Devils Resort Club. He was also a member of the Methodist Church.

## **Hubert A. Nicholson - 1959 \***

Hubert A. Nicholson was the third member of his family to serve the SNA, following in the footsteps of his uncle, Harry Nicholson (1917) and his father (1929). Hubert A. Nicholson was awarded the Slater Wight Award in 1964. He was owner of the Commercial Nursery Company of Dechard, Tennessee, and married to the former Mary James Lindsey. They had two daughters Norma Lee Powers and Nancy Sue. Hubert was a graduate of the University of Tennessee, earning a B. S. Degree in Horticulture.



He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, past president of the Southern Nurserymen's Association, the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association, the Plant Propagation Society, and a trustee of the Horticultural Research Institute. Also, he was a member of the Support Council of the University of Tennessee Space Institute.

Hubert was president of Winchester Rotary Club in 1960, and served as a trustee of the Dechard Methodist Church. He served as chairman of the Dechard Industrial Board, and as chairman of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of Franklin County, Tennessee.

The firm, Commercial Nursery Company, is honored and respected in Franklin County and over the nation. Its history parallels the history of SNA. Harry Nicholson, an uncle of Hubert, was president of SNA in 1917. Hubert's father, Norman Nicholson, was president in 1929. Following in their footsteps, Hubert's tenure as president in 1959 was marked as a year of great progress and decision for it was in 1959 that SNA took the first steps that were to lead it to its present position of eminence.



Hubert was recognized as the father of the Southern Nurserymen's Protective Association and his account of its formation appears elsewhere in this volume. Personal effort on Hubert Nicholson's part, meant much in increasing the support of many nurserymen in the south towards building a firm base for the SNA Trade Show.

### **Edwin G. Fraser - 1960 \***

Edwin G. Fraser was born in Newberry, Florida, December 30, 1914. His wife was Jesse Walters Fraser and they had two children, Gary Kent Fraser of Macclenny, Florida and Sandra June Anderson of San Antonio, Texas.

Mr. Fraser was the president of the Southern States Nurseries, Inc., of Macclenny, a company engaged in the wholesale nursery business. A talented public speaker, Mr. Fraser served 33 years as a member of the Florida Legislature, as a member of the House and as Secretary of the Senate. In this capacity, he was of invaluable service to his fellow nurserymen in his home state. He served as president of the Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association.



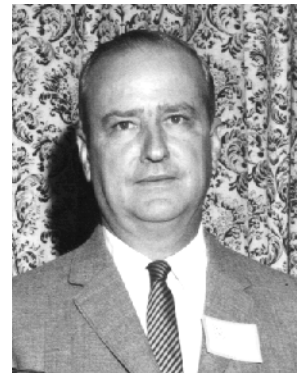
In SNA, Senator Fraser always believed very strongly that membership in this organization was of great value to every nurseryman, and used his valuable efforts to enrich those values and in bringing them to the attention of all members of the trade.

### **George M. Coulter - 1961 \***

George M. Coulter was born in Maiden, North Carolina in 1909. He and his wife, Evelyn Grice Coulter, had four sons and one daughter, George Jr., Barbara Coulter Hilliard, Raymond, Donald and John Paul Coulter.

His company, the Carolina Nurseries, Inc. of Charlotte, NC, was engaged in the wholesale and retail nursery business as well as providing landscaping services to its clients.

Mr. Coulter was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, and President of the North Carolina Nurserymen's Association. He was a member of the Charlotte Sales Executive Club, a Mason and was a communicant of the St. Lukes Lutheran Church.



## **Robert W. Boyd, Sr. - 1962**

Robert W. Boyd, Sr., president of SNA in 1962, was born in 1919 in McMinnville, Tennessee son of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Boyd, Sr. He and his wife, Eleanor Barker, had one daughter, Mrs. Andrew (Bette) Meyers and one son, Robert W. Boyd, Jr.

He was the proprietor of the Globe Wholesale Nursery of McMinnville. He attended the University of Tennessee, where he earned a B.S. Degree in Horticulture. He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, and in 1952 was president of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association. In 1950 he was president of the Middle Tennessee group, and in 1965 was president of the Southern Nurserymen's Protective Association.



Mr. Boyd engaged in many civic activities which include the U. S. Naval Reserve, the McMinnville Chamber of Commerce, the Regional Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the promotion of the Republican Party in Tennessee.

He served as a director of the City Bank and Trust Company of McMinnville, as agricultural advisor of the Ohio River Basin Commission and as a member of the Board of Governors of the University of Tennessee.

In answer to our query as to the most pressing problem of SNA during his presidency, Mr. Boyd wrote as follows, "I think our greatest problem was the almost total lack of reliable credit information. This need fostered the beginning of SNPA. During the year 1962, the first credit report was assembled and published by the Southern Nurserymen's Association itself. This was followed by the organization of SNPA during the administration of James M. Patterson."

## **James M. Patterson - 1963 \***

Mr. Patterson was affectionately known as Jim by his hundreds of friends, and was president of SNA in 1963. He served as director-at-large on the Board of Directors during 1964, and in 1965 was the recipient of the Slater Wight Memorial Award. Compared to some nurserymen, his career in the nursery business was relatively brief. He established the Patterson Nursery about 1957 and liquidated the business in 1967.

However, in those few short years he became recognized as the leader in container growing. His nursery in Putney, Georgia was a model of efficient operation and a working laboratory of controlled experiments in all aspects of



container operation. In 1969, Mr. Patterson published a book entitled "Container Growing", which is the reference manual for this type of operation.

Jim was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1905, and received his early education at the Lake Forest Preparatory School and graduated from the Ashville School for boys. He was a member of the Rotary Club, was the treasurer and a board member of the Albany, Georgia Chamber of Commerce and also of Albany Chapter of the American Red Cross and for many years served on the board of the Albany Public Library.

At the time of his death on September 17, 1972, he was married to the former Dorothy LeMond. He was also survived by a son and a daughter by a previous marriage.

## **Ray Bass - 1964**

Ray Bass was born in Lumberton, Mississippi, in 1920. He was married to the former Caroline Roberts and had three children, Ivan Kirl, Cassandra Jane and Roberts Ayrand Bass. Ray was a graduate of the University of Mississippi, receiving his Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1939 and his Masters Degree in 1946.



He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen and has served as president of the Mississippi Nurserymen's Association, the Southeastern Pecan Growers Association, the Mississippi Pecan Growers Association, the Federated Pecan Growers Association of the United States and the Mississippi Florists and Nurserymen's Association.

His civic activities included a term as Lieutenant Governor of the State of Mississippi, president of the Pearl River Farmers Co-op., Board member of First Mississippi National Bank, Director of Mississippi State University Development Foundation, Secretary, Board of Trustees, Lumberton Citizens Hospital and Chairman of the Lamar County Republican Party.

Mr. Bass listed the following problems in 1964:

Expansion of relationship of nurserymen and suppliers, developing SNA image as a service to the industry, the question of credit and the establishment of SNPA.

## **David E. Laird, Sr. - 1965 \***

David E. Laird, Sr., SNA president in 1965, was born in Midlothian, Virginia in 1904. He died April 20, 1973. His wife was the former Mary Louise Blue and they had three children, David E. Laird, Jr., Mary Louise Laird, and Martha Laird Peery.

Mr. Laird organized and operated Laird's Nurseries and Garden Center of Richmond, Virginia. He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, the Virginia Nurserymen's Association and the Richmond groups.

In 1958 and again in 1971, he won the Virginia Nurserymen's Association Nurseryman of the Year Award.



## **Robert H. Hillenmeyer - 1966**

Robert H. Hillenmeyer was born in Lexington, Kentucky, in 1921. He and his wife, Eileen Sullivan Hillenmeyer, have three children, Robert, Jr., Mary Lee and Leslie.

A graduate of the University of Kentucky, Robert Hillenmeyer is a member of a famous nursery family who have operated the Hillenmeyer Nurseries for over a century and a half.

Mr. Hillenmeyer was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen and the Kentucky Nurserymen's Association. He also served as a director of Columbia Gas System of Wilmington, Delaware, Columbia Gas of Kentucky and West Virginia, General Telephone Company of Kentucky, Kentucky Educational Television, and University of Kentucky Athletics Board.

He is a past president of the Kentucky Nurserymen's Association and is a former member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Kentucky -1957 to 1970.



After the very successful combination convention and trade show of 1965 in Norfolk, Virginia, Mr. Hillenmeyer was president in 1966 when the second such meeting took place in New Orleans at the Jung Hotel. Mr. Hillenmeyer has this to say as to the problems which existed at that time: "We were trying to discover a 'sleeping giant', namely, a thriving industry with capable, dynamic professional leadership in the person of Porter Henegar. Our solution was the decision to go to Atlanta with a major trade show on a continuing basis with further development of a cooperative meeting with state associations. From this beginning, we have increased membership and interest in the association's activities. We also have built a financial base that has given us strength beyond our wildest expectations."

## **Samuel Dwight Cain - 1967 \***

Dwight Cain was president of the Southern Nurserymen's Association in 1967, having served the association as vice-president the previous year and as a member of the Board of Directors during 1964 and 1965. He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, the Southern Nurserymen's Association and the state associations in both North and South Carolina.

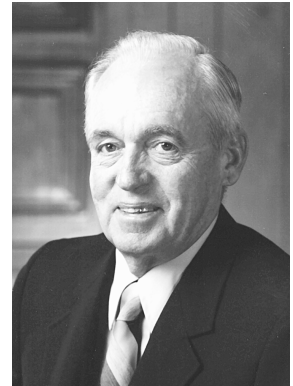


Mr. Cain was born in 1907 in Sumpter, South Carolina and was a graduate of Clemson University. He and his wife Irene Graham, had two daughters, Mrs. Sally Horton and Mrs. Emmie Latimer. He was the owner of the Spartanburg Landscape and Nursery Company of 2265 E. Main Street, Spartanburg, and his company did both wholesale and retail business.

Dwight Cain, above all, was a man of strong conviction. As early as 1959, he foresaw a great future for SNA. He believed very strongly that SNA should combine its convention activities with its trade show. He believed that it should hold the trade show in one central location every year and at the same time each year. He foresaw that the financial security of SNA depended upon a successful trade show and he actively participated in the sale of display booths to nurserymen and to the producers of products allied to the nursery trade. In fact, Dwight was SNA's chief salesman. In giving Dwight Cain the Slater Wight Memorial Award, SNA simply acknowledged a deep sense of gratitude for his untiring efforts and successful leadership.

## **Sidney B. Meadows - 1968 \***

Sidney B. Meadows received the Slater Wight Memorial Award in 1970, and was president of SNA in 1968 and director-at-large in 1969. His contribution to the welfare of SNA was of such great moment that he was asked to attend the various meetings of the Board of Directors long after his official tenure of office was ended.



This is not surprising, for in the eyes of his associates, he was a born leader, a man who was able to analyze a problem with rapidity, to resolve it with directness, and to express his opinions with remarkable clarity, spiced with a delightful wit. He was one of the first who foresaw the future role of SNA in the family of trade associations. His organizational ability was invaluable in the successful growth of the SNA Trade Show.

Sidney Meadows was born in Lettsworth, Louisiana, in 1920. He and his wife, the former Mary Lucille Husted, had three children, Mary Jane, Glenn Sidney and Margaret Lil. He was general manager of Flowerwood Nursery of Mobile, Alabama. He was a graduate of the University of Southwest Louisiana and Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge.

He was a member of the Alabama Nurserymen's Association, the Southern Nurserymen's Association, the American Camellia Society, the International Plant Propagators Society, and is serving on the Board of Governors of the American Association of Nurserymen.

Additionally, he served as president of the Alabama Nurserymen's Association; chairman of the administrative board of the South Brookley United Methodist Church and was Cub-Master of Pack #26, of Mobile Boy Scouts of America.

### **Arthur J. Lancaster, Jr. - 1969 \***

Art Lancaster was born in Portsmouth, Virginia in 1919. He and his wife, the former Millie Snyder, had no children. He was educated in the public schools of Portsmouth and for most of his life was associated with Coleman Nurseries of Portsmouth, Virginia.



Mr. Lancaster was one of the pioneers in the development of the Garden Center as a merchandising institution. Borrowing merchandising and advertising techniques from institutions, national in scope, he and his wife were successful in applying them to a small business operation until they built a model for the retail nursery industry.

Art was a driver. He had tremendous personal energy, and problems to him were simply things to be overpowered and solved by the weight of his personality and the business acumen developed by his vast experience. He first brought this trait into his business and later into his leadership of SNA. It was during his administration that we temporarily lost the services of our secretary, Porter Henegar. Art took this in stride and led the association to one of its finest conventions and trade shows. In SNA matters he always stressed growth and financial security to guarantee the future.

Mr. Lancaster was a Rotarian, a Methodist and a member of the Rescue Squad of Portsmouth. Besides being a member of SNA, he actively supported the Virginia Nurserymen's Association and the AAN.

### **James Geddes Douglas - 1970 \***

James Geddes Douglas was born in Nashville, Tennessee in 1902. He and his wife, the former Frances Kingree, had four children, Geddes, Jr., Mary, Martha and Frances. He was a graduate of Vanderbilt University, receiving a B. S. Degree in Chemistry. He worked as a chemist after graduation and bought the family business, which had been in continuous operation since 1836, from his father's estate in 1931, which he operated until 1952.



At that time, Mr. Douglas and his wife established the Geddes Douglas Garden Center, one of the first stores of its kind in Tennessee. In 1960 the business was expanded by the purchase of the Jones Ornamental Nursery from Mr. Richard H. Jones, adding a landscaping operation to the garden center business. Later the Harpeth Valley Nursery was organized for the purpose of growing a general line of nursery stock. The business was sold in 1967 to Geddes Douglas, Jr.

Geddes Douglas Sr. was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, past president of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association and the Nashville Nurserymen's Association. He was Secretary of the American Iris Society from 1949 to 1956, and served as editor of the American Iris Society's quarterly. In 1947, he served as editor of "The Iris - An Ideal Hardy Perennial," a comprehensive botanical and horticultural treatise on this popular garden subject.

An amateur geneticist and plant breeder, Mr. Douglas specialized in the production of new varieties of iris and hemerocallis in sizes and colors suitable for use in the modern home planting

Mr. Douglas served as Deacon and Elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Nashville. He was the horticultural commentator for the WSM television station on its variety show NOON from 1954 to 1969.

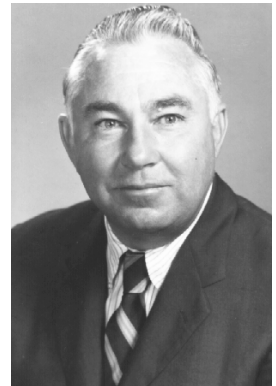
With reference to SNA, he saw as the chief problem during his term as director and president, the promotion of the association to the retail trade, the landscape architects, and to the industries allied to the nursery business.

### **Cecil F. Hill - 1971 \***

Cecil F. Hill was born in Homer, Georgia in 1923. His wife was the former Martha Lee Pamperial and they had two daughters, Judith Lee Hill Marsh and Mary Barbera Hill.

Mr. Hill was the proprietor of the Hill Nursery Company, of Homer and was a wholesale grower. He was a graduate of the University of Georgia.

He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, the South Carolina Nurserymen's Association and the Georgia Nurserymen's Association.



Prior to Mr. Hill's term as president of SNA, the Board of Directors had been notified by Porter Henegar that he wished to retire as Executive Secretary of the Association. It was during Mr. Hill's administration that Thomas L. Henegar was employed to fill his father's position.

Mr. Hill spoke at length on some of the problems confronting nurserymen and the industry in his address at the 1971 meeting. We quote the following excerpts in condensed form, “The key that will describe our industry in the Seventies is CHANGE. The labor crises will affect our every decision. Every nursery task that can be mechanized must eventually be mechanized. Diggers, planters, loaders, sprayers, every known device to speed up production must be developed to the utmost.”

“Again, we are entering a period when chemicals must take the place of muscles to give us better control over our plants. Even the weather will have to be considered. We will have to change our thinking to use its advantages and offset its disadvantages, for the buying habits of the public is controlled by the weather.”

“Transportation of our products to their eventual destination will change to a different medium due to the wage raises recently won by the Teamsters. We will see private trucking on the rise. But of foremost consideration will be efficiency and dependability of product delivery.”

“The market for our products will undergo a tremendous change. Retailers will be forced to use drugstore sales gimmicks. They will have to stock merchandise according to the desires of the public and provide parking similar to the supermarket.”

“Will wholesales and retailers be able to keep pace with inflation? Will they be able to survive in the face of governmental interference, regulating labor, transportation, quarantine, price controls, taxes and the use of various chemicals. Will they be able to compete with government owned and operated corporations supported by the public tax dollar? (Heart of Georgia Project).

“Answers to these and other questions will be found within the structure of SNA where our trade show will offer new ideas; where our Research Workers’ efforts will always keep us one step ahead of the bureaucrat and where we will have the added strength of a united effort.”

## **William H. Barton, Sr. - 1972**

William H. “Bill” Barton was born in Birmingham, Alabama in 1926. He graduated from Auburn University in 1948 and received the degree of Bachelor of Science in Ornamental Horticulture. He is married to the former Mary Kirkland and they have one girl and two boys, Deborah, William Jr., and Randal Barton.

Mr. Barton was a partner in the Guthrie-Barton Nursery of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, which later became Barton’s Nursery & Landscape, which is continued today by his son, William H. “Buzz” Barton, Jr.





He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen and a past president of the Alabama Nurserymen's Association. Also, he served as president of the Civitan Club of Tuscaloosa. Barton served as a founding member of the Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund, and later as President .

Bill dedicated his five years of service as a Director and President of SNA to the betterment of the Trade Show. (See CHAPTER II - Seven Years in Atlanta). Being the son of a wholesale and retail nurseryman and himself a retailer, he was in a position to fully realize the needs of both groups. The success of his efforts is reflected by the figures shown in the analytical chart on page 16.

### **Warren Jerome Redd - 1973**

Warren Jerome Redd was born in Kingston, North Carolina, on September 17, 1910. He and his wife, Jane Barber had three children, Warren Jerome, Jr. Frances Marion and Barbara Jane.

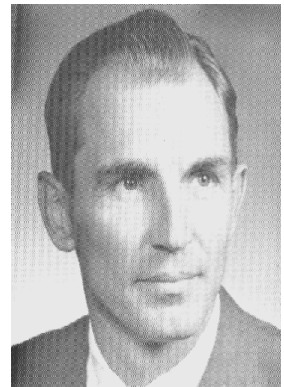


Mr. Redd was the proprietor of the Greenway Nursery Company, Inc., of 6307 Reddman Road, Charlotte, North Carolina. He was engaged in both wholesale and retail sales. He was a member of the American Association of Nurserymen and served as president of the North Carolina Nurserymen's Association. In 1964 he was president of the Southeastern Flower and Garden Show, Inc. Also, he was a member of the Eastgate Masonic Lodge Number 692, the Carolina Consistory of Scottish Rite and the Oasis Temple of the Shrine. Mr. Redd was a member of the Amity Presbyterian Church of Charlotte and has served two terms as Deacon and one term as an Elder.

In answer to our question as to the most pressing problem during his presidency of the Southern Nurserymen's Association, there was no hesitancy to his answer - making more space available in the exhibit area of a rapidly growing trade show.

### **Richard L. Ammon - 1974**

Richard L. Ammon was born April 10, 1929, in Covington, Kentucky. In 1949, he married the former Shirley Howard and they have one married daughter, Pamela, and one son, Gregory, who continue the business today.



Mr. Ammon is the organizer and owner of the Ammon Nursery, Inc., of Florence, Kentucky. He attended high school in Florence and studied one year at the University of Kentucky. We asked Mr. Ammon how he happened to get into the nursery business and he wrote us as follows:

“During my high school years my father purchased a small farm. This is where my desire to learn how to grow plants began.

We had a sugar maple woods next to a corn field that one year was very heavy with seed. When the seeds blew from the trees and covered the ground at the edge of the cornfield, I disced the seed into the ground and grew a bumper crop of sugar maple trees. During the time it took to grow these trees to 63 feet, I finished high school; attended one year of college at the University of Kentucky, Department of Horticulture; worked one summer and winter for Crume Nursery in Florence, Kentucky; and started my own business. I sold these trees for one dollar each through an ad in the American Nurseryman and cleared several thousand dollars, which was a big boost to a poor beginner.”

Mr. Ammon is a past president of the Kentucky Nurserymen’s Association and the Cincinnati Landscape Association. He is a member of the International Plant Propagators Society, the American Association of Nurserymen. He is a deacon of the Elsmere Baptist church and member of the Gideons International; presently Chairman of the Board of the Kentucky Baptist Convalescent Home and is on the Board of Campbellsville College. Ammon served as a founding member of the Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund, and later as President .

As president of SNA in 1974, the year of our Diamond Jubilee Celebration, Mr. Ammon was faced with a two-fold problem. First the organization, in conjunction with the office of the Secretary, of the greatest celebration in the history of the Association, and second, the increase and sale of more than 25 percent of available booth space for our many exhibitors.

### **R.E. “Ed” Brown - 1975 \***

Robert Edmond “Ed” Brown was born in Lincoln County, Kentucky on October 12, 1907. He received his elementary education there and graduated from Houstonville High School. He later moved to Florida where he attended and graduated from Lakeland Business College. Ed and his wife, the former Louise Vernon, had one daughter, Patricia-now Mrs. Tom Conturier.



Ed originated Goochland Nurseries, Inc. with three other partners in January, 1946. Then, in December, 1968 he became the sole owner of the corporation. Goochland Nurseries has long been noted for high quality and diversity of its container grown plant material. These range from citrus and indoor plants to many varieties of hardy landscape materials. The Nursery is located on U.S. Highway 17, Pembroke, Florida. Brown was one of the founders and was a past president of the Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association. He served as the Florida delegate to the Board of Governors of the American Association of Nurserymen. He was president of the Horticultural Research Institute from 1969 to 1972. He was trustee of the AAN Group Insurance Program.

Brown was recognized as an excellent business man. In his remarks to the members present during the 76th annual meeting on August 4, 1975, in Atlanta Brown stated, "Our industry has grown tremendously over the years, and we now take our place proudly among the business leaders of our locality, state and nation. For we are just that...BUSINESS, and big business. To keep pace with the anticipated growth and the constant changes occurring in our society today, we need to remain flexible and adapt to adjusting our operations as required in the face of change. We are the recipients of more and more pressures, affecting our operations; changing laws and legislation that affect us; taxation, urban sprawl, thefts, present state of the economy, increasing costs of operation, water usage, fuel and labor. These and many more are of great concern to us on a daily basis."

## **William K. "Billy" Martinson - 1976**

Billy Martinson, SNA President in 1976 was born in Jackson, Mississippi December 20, 1934. He was graduated from Jackson's Central High School and majored in Horticulture at Mississippi State University, and graduated with a B.S. degree in 1957. While there he was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity, ROTC Honorary Fraternity, Pershing Rifles, and the Horticulture Club. He is married to the former Rita Randall, and they have four children. He has been president of the Green Oak Nursery and Florist, Inc., of Jackson since 1960. Billy served as president of the Mississippi Nurserymen's Association in 1965-66. He has been co-owner of a wholesale seed and co-owner of rental apartments in Jackson.



It was during Martinson's administration as SNA president that the following statement of policy was adopted.

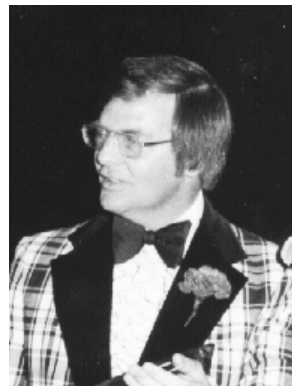
David Laird made the motion: "That it be the responsibility of each SNA director to attend the annual state meeting of each state association in his Chapter with travel expenses to be paid by Southern Nurserymen's Association."

The motion was seconded by Dennis McCloskey and was passed unanimously. The SNA office will notify each Director as to the dates of the state meetings in his Chapter and notify the state executive as to whom from SNA will attend their meeting.

During the 1976 annual meeting it was announced to the members that the 1979 Trade Show would be combined with the American Association of Nurserymen as a joint meeting and Trade Show. Financial arrangements were to be worked out by the SNA Board and the AAN.

## David E. Laird, Jr. - 1977

David E. Laird, Jr. was born in Richmond, Virginia on November 26, 1938. He attended St. Christopher's High School in Richmond and was graduated from Hampden Sydney College in 1962 and from Virginia Tech in 1964. He joined the family firm, Laird's Nurseries and Garden Center in 1965. He became president of the firm in 1968.



Laird has two sons. He lists his hobbies as hunting, fishing, camping and horses.

He is a former president of the Virginia Nurserymen's Association and was a founding member of the Virginia Agri-Business Council serving as president in 1972-73.

He is a member of the Second Presbyterian Church of Richmond and the Richmond Chapter of Jaycees and Ducks Unlimited. He was honored as one of the Outstanding Young Men of America in 1971 by the Jaycees.

During Laird's term as president, the Board of Directors decided to move the next 1977 Trade Show to the Atlanta Civic Center which could accommodate 500 (8'X10') booths in one area.

Laird was highly interested in legislative matters at both the national and state levels that have direct affects on the nursery industry. He announced his intention of appointing the SNA Legislative Committee which would consist of two members from each of the fourteen member state associations. These members were asked to submit issues considered to be of national or regional importance to the industry. The chairman should compile the recommended issues and then present to the annual membership meeting each year for approval. This officially adopted policy has been forwarded to each member of Congress from SNA states.

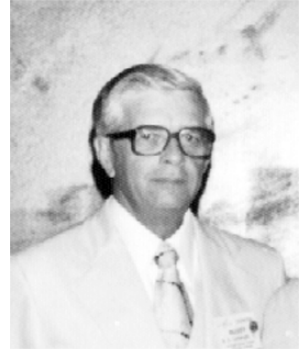
At the annual membership meeting during Laird's administration, Membership Chairman, Dennis McCloskey reported that SNA membership had gone over 1,000 for the first time in history.

President Laird explained that a special meeting was held in Nashville, Tennessee on May 10, 1977, to discuss options of promoting the industry within the region. Present at this meeting in addition to Laird were Billy Martinson, Director, Tommy Henegar, Executive Secretary and Wayne Dickson of the Washington, D.C. P.R. firm of Dickson and Associates. Dickson outlined his ideas for both a radio and television public service campaign tailored for each state where the film and spot would be aired. Dickson's proposal was approved by the unanimous vote of the Board of Directors. The program was to be known as, "Living South" from this time on.

The "Living South" promotional campaign was to continue for the next two years with a total financial outlay of approximately \$180,000.00. It was declared a worthwhile success.

## **A.D. Cartwright, Jr. - 1978**

Albert David (Buddy) Cartwright, Jr. was born in Memphis, Tennessee on January 5, 1928. He graduated from Collierville, TN High School in 1946 and from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 1950 with a B.S. Degree in Agriculture where he held membership in the Phi Kappas and Sigma Alpha Epsilon National Fraternities. Cartwright later became president of the Cartwright Nursery Company in Collierville which was and is a large wholesale growing firm.



Cartwright Nurseries was begun in Collierville, Tennessee by his father, Dave Cartwright. His son Robert is now the third generation to head the firm.

He is a member of the American Association of Nurserymen where he was director of the Governmental Production Committee and Director of the Products Standard Committee. As a member of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association he served as director of the Legislation and Transportation Committees and was chairman of the SNA Convention in Memphis in 1960. Always active in the Horticultural Research Institute he has served as Vice President and Director of the Executive Committee.

As a member of the Board, Cartwright was instrumental in investigating the advisability of making the decision to move the headquarters hotel from the downtown Marriott to the Atlanta Hilton, and also to move the Trade Show to the Atlanta Civic Center. These moves were made in 1977.

Of major importance during the Cartwright administration was the installation of a precise accounting and budgeting system which afforded the Board of Directors the confidence to move forward with the exact knowledge of the financial standing of SNA.

Later in 1981, Cartwright was awarded the Slater Wight Memorial trophy for his accomplishments and for his dedication to SNA.

He is married to the former Clara Catherine (Candy) Skinner. They have one son and two grandchildren.

## **William John “Bill” Park - 1979**

W.J. Park was President of the Southern Nursery Association in 1979. Park has also served as President of the South Carolina Nurserymen’s Association, Mail Order Association of Nurserymen and President of All America Selections. A graduate of Clemson College. This native of Greenwood, S.C. was born Oct. 17, 1925 and is married to the former Jeane James. He is a former member of Kawanis Club, Jaycees and served on the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and the American Red Cross. He is the former President of Geo. W. Park Seed Co. of Greenwood. He is the former owner of Parkwood Nurseries in Greenwood S. C. .

In 1993 he was the second recipient of the American Society of Horticultural Sciences, Outstanding Industry Scientist Award.



The 1979 trade show and convention was held jointly with the American Association of Nurserymen with the Peachtree Plaza Hotel serving as convention headquarters. the trade show was held in the Atlanta Civic Center. It had earlier been agreed that AAN would pay all convention expenses out of the registration funds collected and that SNA would take care of the deficit out of trade show revenue. Although many expressed that the hotel was somewhat less than adequate for most attendees it was generally felt that the joint meeting of the two associations was highly successful and worthwhile for creating a feeling of good will for both.

It was during Park’s term as President the decision was made to move the 1982 trade show from the Atlanta Civic Center to the Georgia World Congress Center. This move paved the way for future significant expansions of the trade show. The expansion of the Congress Center has enabled SNA to enlarge the show several times since then.

## **Dennis V. McCloskey - 1980**

Born in New Orleans, LA on November 26, 1936 McCloskey attended schools in New Orleans and was graduated from LSU in 1960. He was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity. He is married to the former Blanche Edge of Jackson, Mississippi. They have three daughters. In 1962 the couple founded Windmill Nurseries, Inc. in Franklinton, LA. The firm was incorporated in 1969 with Dennis as President. He served as President of the Louisiana Nurserymen’s Association in 1974 and the American Association of Nurserymen in 1993. He is an active member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. His hobbies include field trialing, bird dogs and Tennessee Walking Horses. McCloskey received the SNA Slater Wight Memorial Award in 1994.



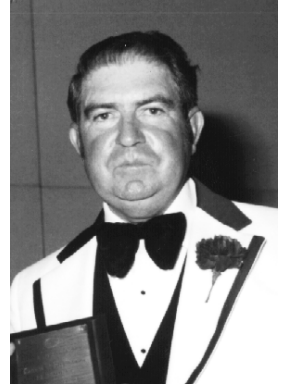
On August 2, 1980 during the last Board of Directors meeting of McCloskey’s term, Charlie Parkerson, Lancaster Farms, Suffolk, VA. asked the Board to consider scheduling an ecumenical church service on Sunday morning each year during the annual meeting and

trade show. The Directors expressed appreciation to Parkerson for his interest and later voted to include a church service on the 1981 program. This service has continued as a part of each years' meeting. It has proved highly popular by good attendance.

The 1980 trade show at the Atlanta Convention Center was the first time registration was done by computer. The firm of Q.M.S., Inc. did an outstanding job of handling the registration of attendees in an efficient manner. In spite of a power "brown-out" in the center.

### **Norman H. Cole Jr. - 1981**

Norman H. Cole Jr., affectionately known as "Mole" was born in Bristol, VA. on March 16,1931. He attended high school at Randolph - Macon Academy and graduated from Ohio State University in 1953. In 1956 he joined his father at Cole Nurseries, Inc. in Forest Hill, West Virginia. He became President of the firm in 1974. "Mole" is married to the former Cherie Briner and they have two daughters and one son. He served as President of the West Virginia Nurserymen's Association for three, one-year terms and as treasurer for over 16 years. He served as president of the local Ruritan Club and is an active member of the Talcott Methodist Church. As approved the preceding year, the first annual church service to be held at an SNA trade show was held on August 2, 1981 with approximately 200 people attending.



The annual Winter meeting of the Board of Directors was originally scheduled to be held in January ,1981 at the Greenbrier Hotel & Resort in white Sulpher Springs, W. VA. However, due to an employee strike the location was changed to the Homestead Hotel & Resort, Hot Springs, VA.

It was during this Board meeting that a discussion was held concerning the SNA Research Conference. It was agreed that additional funds should be spent in order to encourage participation by the researcher. The possibility of underwriting hotel room costs was suggested as a possibility.

### **Clinton Jay Korfhage - 1982**

Clinton J. Korfhage, affectionately known as "Frotz" was born in Louisville, KY on July 6, 1925. He was graduated from Louisville Male High in 1943 and entered the Air Force soon thereafter. He completed pilot training in 1945. While in the Air Force he attended Whittenberg College in Springfield, Ohio.

Frotz is married to the former Margaret Rains, they have two daughters and three sons. He joined the family business, Korfhage Florist and Nursery Company and was named partner and Director of Nursery Operations in 1949.



The firm holds membership in the Louisville, Kentucky and American Nurserymen's Association, National Landscape Association and also many florist related organizations. He is an active member of St. Paul United Methodist Church, where he served as a Deacon, on the Board of Directors and the Finance Committee. He is an Executive Board Member of Louisville Altnheim Home for the aging , on the Board of Methodist Evangelical Hospital and the Wesley Manor & Methodist Retirement Homes of Kentucky. He lists his hobbies as ice skating, and traveling. In 1982 Frotz left the family business and opened Clinton Korfhage Landscaping in Louisville.

During the annual business meeting of SNA on August 2, 1982 the Trade Show Chairman reported that the show just completed was the first to be held in the Georgia World Congress Center. There were 465 firms occupying 685 booths making this the largest trade show in SNA history. Also during this meeting President Korfhage announced that the Board of Directors had approved an official request from the Oklahoma Nurserymen's Association to be included as a member state of SNA. He then called upon Ben Davis, II, Hill County Nurseries, Tahliquah, Oklahoma to come forward and place the state flag of Oklahoma in its proper position with the other flags of member states displayed on the head table.

### **Richard J. Hackney - 1983**

Richard J. (Dick) Hackney was born on February 12, 1927 in Wilson, NC. He attended high school in Wilson where he was captain of the football team. He was also a member of the Boy Scouts of America attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. He attended the University of North Carolina and served in the U.S. Navy for a total of 3 years. In 1952 he married the former Mary Van Landingham of Cairo, GA. They have 5 children, two girls and three boys. In 1968 Dick was employed by Wight Nurseries of Cairo, GA and was named Sales Manager of the company in 1975. He served as President of the Georgia Nursery Association in 1976. Hackney retired in 1995 and is an Honorary Member of the SNA.



A member of the First Presbyterian Church of Thomasville, GA. Hackney served as Sunday School Superintendent in 1969 and 1970. He is a member of the Jaycees, Elk and Rotary Clubs. His hobbies are golf and fishing. The Hackneys have a beautiful home in Thomasville where Dick enjoys entertaining friends in his "Starlight Lounge".

During Hackney's term as President the Board of Directors voted to change the fiscal year from January 1 through December 31 to November 1 through October 31. It was felt this period was more in line with the actual cash flow which had been established over the years and would give a more easily understood picture of annual income and expenses.



## **M. David Byers, Jr. - 1984**

David Byers was born August 29, 1937 in Huntsville, Alabama. He attended elementary and high school in Huntsville and graduated from Auburn University in 1959 with a degree in Horticulture. He received the American Society of Horticultural Science, Joseph B. Edmond Award and was President of the Horticulture Forum and the L.M. Ware Outstanding Senior Award. Byers received the SNA Slater Wight Memorial Award in 1988.



Following college he joined the family firm in 1960. On 1972 David became President and General Manager of Byers Nursery Co., Inc.

In 1959 David married the former Janie Graft. They have three sons and two granddaughters.

David has been a member of the Jaycees, Rotary International and City of Huntsville Beautification Board. He is on the Board of Control of the Huntsville Hospital Authority, and the Chamber of Commerce. The Byers are members of First United Methodist Church.

In addition to the wholesale nursery, Byers also was a partner in a retail nursery operation. He later sold his interest to the partner.

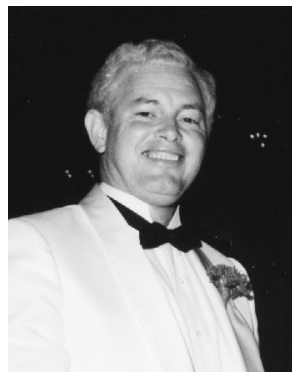
David had served as SNA Trade Show Chairman in 1980 which had made him acutely aware of the potential problem areas of the annual trade show. This experience helped greatly toward making the 1984 trade show one of the smoothest and most attractive in history. There were 734 booths in the show occupied by 500 firms.

SNA's first Director of Education, Dr. Will P. Irwin of Houston, TX was appointed for a 2 year period during Byers' administration. Member state associations were notified they should contact Dr. Irwin and advise him of the educational subject they would like covered at a seminar at their annual meeting. Dr. Irwin would either conduct the seminar himself or would locate an expert speaker for the subject.

After many comfortable and successful years at the Atlanta Hilton and Towers, the Board of Directors requested and reviewed proposals from the Atlanta Hilton and Towers and the Atlanta Marriott Marquis which had recently opened across the street from the Hilton. Both proposals for hosting future SNA meetings were examined and discussed at length, it was decided to accept the proposal from the Atlanta Marriott Marquis beginning in 1988.

## **Ronald W. Copeland - 1985**

Ronald W. Copeland was born in Chatham County, North Carolina on February 12, 1939. He attended schools in Pittsboro, NC. and graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1961. Later that same year Copeland married the former Jean Ragan of Raleigh and four years later the couple was selected as North Carolina's Outstanding Young Couple for 1965 by the North Carolina State Grange which is a family fraternity type organization concentrating on community projects. Ronald became Owner-President in 1961 of Apex Nurseries, Inc., Apex NC. The Copelands have two children, a daughter, Karen, and a son, Will.



Ronald is a past president of the North Carolina Nurserymen's Association and he served as Chairman of the Board of Central Carolina Bank & Trust Co. in 1979. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Central Production Credit Association for ten years, serving as Chairman in 1978. He is a member of the advisory committee of the Agriculture Institute of NC. State University. They are members of Olive Chapel Baptist Church where Ronald served as Sunday School Director, Teacher and Chairman of the Board of Deacons. He is a member of the Apex Chamber of Commerce.

Ronald Copeland's term as SNA President was the first full year of SNA's emphasis on education programs through the appointment Dr. Will P. Irwin as Director of Education. During the 1985 Business Meeting of SNA it was reported that educational seminars had been held at the following state association meetings: Alabama, Kentucky, and Virginia.

President Copeland expressed SNA's appreciation to state associations for making SNA's first year of education promotion so very successful.

## **Frank H. "Sonny" Colvett - 1986**

Frank H. Colvett was born in Forest City, Ark. on July 10, 1937. He received a B. S. degree in Ornamental Horticulture from Auburn University in 1959. He is married to the former Sally Hinkle. They reside in Memphis, TN and have two children, Frank, Jr. and Catheryn.

Mr. Colvett is President and Chief Executive Officer of GreenScape, inc. of Memphis., a landscape contracting firm. He is a member of the American Nurserymen and Landscape Association, a Past President of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association Colvett received the SNA Slater Wight Memorial Award in 1991.



During his tenure as SNA President, he proposed to the Board of Directors that they authorize establishing the Southern Nurserymen's Association Endowment Fund with the Horticulture Research Institute in the amount of \$50,000. The Directors voted a cash outlay of \$25,000

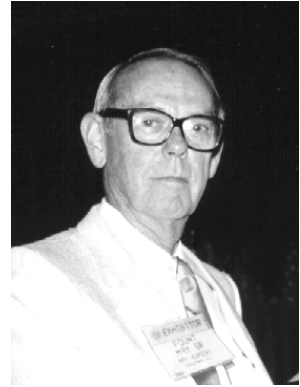
and pledged additional contributions of \$5,000 per year until the total of \$50,000 had been reached. In later years the SNA Board voted to increase the fund total to \$100,000.

Colvett instructed the Executive Vice President to ask the accounting firm to prepare SNA's annual financial report in such a manner to differentiate between actual cash of the trade show, the "cost of doing business" and the variables which could readily be adjusted year to year by tightening or loosening as required. The result was the present format which divides revenue between trade show and operating income and disbursements between trade show general, exhibit hall, services returned to the industry and the operating (general and administrative) expenses of running the association.

Colvett reported he felt his major accomplishment on the Board was the promotion of the role of SNA in offering educational opportunities to the members and to the industry in the region. During his tenure on the Board Dr. Will Irwin served his first full year as Director of Education by offering numerous educational seminars at the trade show and also funding thousands of dollars into member states' seminars.

### **Fountain "Fount" H. May, Sr. - 1987**

Born in Quincy FL. October 17, 1919, Fount attended school in Quincy. He graduated from the University of Florida, Gainesville, FL. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1941 to 1946. Fount returned to Quincy in 1946 and joined the family firm, May Tobacco Co. In 1971 Fount and his brother Don changed the name and focus of the firm to May Nursery, Inc.



Since entering the nursery business, Fount has taken an active part in his state, regional and national Nursery Associations. He is a Past President of the Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association and served as Chairman of the Florida Nursery & Allied Trade Show, Inc. He served as a Director of the Florida Nurserymen Political Action Committee. He is an active member of the American Association of Nurserymen and the Horticultural Research Institute. May received the SNA Slater Wight Memorial Award in 1992.

In 1944 Fount married the former Carolyn Brinson of Monticello, FL. They have one daughter and two sons. They are members of First Presbyterian Church in Quincy. Fount lists his hobbies as restoring and selling antique furniture.

During Fount's administration funds were approved to underwrite the cost of and SNA sponsored State Officer's Conference. This has been a highly successful annual project that enables state association leaders to meet and work together. The conference is well attended and anxiously awaited each year since 1987.

The 1987 trade show was the largest and best attended to date. May was given an ovation during the annual business meeting of the association.

## **Frank B. Akin - 1988**

Frank B. Akin was born on February 10, 1940 in Shreveport, LA. He attended Shreveport schools and graduated from Louisiana State University in 1963 with a B.S. degree in Landscape Architecture. He served in the U.S. Army in 1963 and 1964.



In 1965 he joined the family firm, Akin's Nursery & Landscape Co., as Landscape Designer and Foreman. In 1967 Frank joined Don Manes & Associates in Little Rock, AR where he was in City Planning and Landscape Architecture. He returned to Shreveport in 1968 and was in private practice as a Landscape Architect. His father retired from the firm in 1972 and Frank became President and General Manager of Akin's Nursery & Landscape Co. He held membership in the American Association of Nurserymen, the New England and Southern Nurserymen's Associations and in Louisiana, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas Associations. He is a Past President of the Louisiana Association of Nurserymen, the Louisiana Landscape Association and Garden Center of America. He also served as Louisiana representative to the AAN Board of Governors. While at L.S.U Frank won the Landscape Architecture Senior Student Design Competition National Award. In 1983 Frank was named Louisiana's Nurseryman of the Year.

Frank left Akin's Nursery & Landscape Co., in 1986 to begin working on his M.B.A. degree from Centenary College in Shreveport. Frank married Leslie Nichols Martin on June 6, 1987. They both attended and graduated from Emory University's Candler Theological School in Atlanta, GA and are now ordained ministers of the United Methodist Church. Frank became minister of a new church in Baton Rouge, LA. He is now Senior Minister of Jubilee Community United Methodist Church and Leslie is Director of Gospel Communications for the Louisiana Methodist Conference. They live in Baton Rouge with their two boys, Rory and Chris.

## **C. Fletcher Flemer, III - 1989**

Fletcher Flemer was born in Richmond, VA on January 16, 1946. He graduated from Christchurch High School in Christchurch, VA in 1964. He attended the College of William & Mary and graduated from North Carolina State University in 1969 with a degree in Horticulture.



Following college Fletcher served as a helicopter pilot with the U.S. Army from 1969 until 1972. He received the Army Commendation Award, Bronze Star, 22 Air Metals and the Silver Star. In 1970 Fletcher married the former Darlene Warren. After being discharged from the Army in 1972 he joined the family firm, Ingleside Plantation Nurseries in Oak Grove, VA. In 1975 he was named Vice-President & Manager. The nursery is a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, International Plant Propagators Society and Virginia Nurserymen's Association. Fletcher

served on the VNA Board of Directors from 1973 through 1979 and he served as President of VNA in 1978. He received the SNA's David E. Laird, Sr. Memorial Award in 1979. Fletcher served as President of the American Association of Nurserymen in 1995. His 1989 term as SNA President make him a "Triple Crowner". Flemer received the SNA Slater Wight Memorial Award in 1995.

He is on the Board of Directors of the First Virginia Bank - Northern Neck, and is a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

The first order of business of Flemer's Administration was to find and hire a replacement for the Executive Vice President, Tommy Henegar, who suffered a serious illness the preceding year. The Board of Directors held interviews of candidates for the position and unanimously agreed to accept the application of Danny Summers.

Another item of importance that occurred during the Flemer Administration was the approval of a request by the Maryland Nurserymen's Association to become an official participating state in SNA.

Of major importance during Flemer's term as SNA President was the establishment of the Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund.

### **Louis E. Hillenmeyer, III - 1990**

The fourth member of this well known nursery family to serve as President of SNA, Louis Hillenmeyer, III was President of Hillenmeyer Nurseries of Lexington, KY. which was founded in 1841. Louis was born in Lexington on October 20, 1944. He attended St. Joseph Prep School in Bardstown, KY and graduated from the University of Kentucky in 1967. He is married to the former Betsy Boggs. They have two sons and one daughter and one grandchild. Louis served as President of Kentucky Nurserymen's Association in 1975. He was Kentucky's governor of AAN's (now ANLA) Board of Governors in 1977 & 1978 and currently serves on the ANLA Board. He is a member of Christ the King Catholic Church, a Director of Commerce National Bank, a member of the Rotary Club, Board of Directors of Julius Marks Nursing Home, 1978 and served as a Director of the Lexington Chamber of Commerce in 1984-1987. He lists his hobbies as golf and gardening. In 1992 Louis left the family nursery and opened Louis's Flower Power Shop in Lexington. Hillenmeyer was the 1996 recipient of the SNA Slater Wight Memorial Award.



During the annual Business Meeting of the Association in August, 1990 President Hillenmeyer welcomed the Arkansas Nurserymen's as an official participating state association in the SNA Trade Show.

An announcement was made that the first four \$1,500.00 scholarships from the Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Fund had been awarded during the year just ending. For several years Louis has served SNA as Director of Education.

## **Robert A. Jenkins - 1991**

A native of Charleston, S.C., Robert A. “Bobby” Jenkins was born on January 20, 1937. He attended St. Paul High School in Charleston where he played football and basketball. He attended Georgia Tech and the College of Charleston. In 1957 he married the former Sarah Moody. They have one daughter and three sons.



In March, 1957 Bobby joined the family nursery, Micah Jenkins Nursery, Inc. He is a member of the American Association of Nurserymen, Wholesale Nursery Growers of America and the International Plant Propagators Society. He is a member of Old St. Andrews Episcopal Church and has been active in Charleston Trident Chamber of Commerce and the Charleston Museum. Bobby was President of the South Carolina Nurserymen’s Association in 1975.

During the 1991 SNA Business Meeting, Dr. William P. Irwin announced his resignation as Director of Education after seven years in the position.

## **J. Fred Fisher, II - 1992**

J. Fred Fisher, II was born in Hattiesburg, MS on November 30, 1948. He attended Hattiesburg public schools and graduated from Mississippi State University in 1970 as a honor graduate and was named a distinguished military graduate and was awarded the Kappa Sigma Fraternity Leadership Award. He returned to Hattiesburg in 1970 and joined the family firm, Fisher’s Nursery and Landscaping. The following year he was named Vice President of the firm. Fred served as President of the Mississippi Nurserymen’s Association in 1978-79. He is a member of the American Association of Nurserymen and served as Mississippi’s governor on the AAN Board of Governors for five years. He is a member of Parkway Heights United Methodist Church where he served as Family Life Coordinator in 1987-88, Council on Ministries 1987-88, Sunday School Class Teacher 1985-86, Sunday School Class President 1987-88 Rotary Club, Board of Directors American Cancer Society, Advisory Board Forrest County Humane Society and Major in the Mississippi National Guard. He received the Army Commendation Medal in 1987. In 1981 Fisher was the winner of SNA’s David E. Laird Memorial Award and in 1983 he won Mississippi’s Best Landscape Award. Fred is married to the former Diane Jones. They are parents of one daughter and three sons.



During Fisher’s administration the Board of Directors decided to support the Southeastern Plant Materials Conference (now the Southern Plant Conference) along with the co-sponsoring state. This has evolved into a biennial event.

Fisher's Board approved inviting the American Association of Nurserymen to have a joint convention with SNA in the future. This decision paved the way for the second joint meeting to take place in 1998. The first such meeting was in 1979.

During the Spring 1992 Board of Directors Meeting Robert Grooms, Chairman of the Trade Show Advisory Committee, reported his committee would like to propose a new award, the "SNA Pinnacle Award" to be given annually to the individual within the allied industry who, in the opinion of the Board, has contributed the most to the advancement of the industry in the south and to the welfare of the Southern Nurserymen's Association. Nominations are to be received from the Trade Show Advisory Committee and to be acted upon by the Board of Directors. The first award was presented to Mr. John Powell, Economy Label Sales during the 1992 SNA Past President's Banquet.

### **Larry D. Edwards - 1993**

SNA President, Larry Edwards was born in Fayetteville, N.C. on June 1, 1943. He attended public schools in Fayetteville and graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1966. He took further studies at North Carolina State in Raleigh. Edwards married the former Jane Webb on August 6, 1966. They have one son and one daughter and one granddaughter.



In 1972, Larry founded Turtle Creek Nursery, Inc. in Davidson, NC where he serves as President. The nursery grows a wide selection of shrubs and trees, specializing in container trees especially dogwoods. They also have a large collection of field grown hollies and crape myrtles. There is also a retail outlet on the nursery site. His son David is an active member of the nursery staff.

Larry served as a member of the North Carolina Association of Nurserymen for five years and served as President in 1986. He served on the NCAN Plant Introduction Committee and the Governor's Mansion Landscape Committee. He also was President of the Piedmont Nurserymen's Association. He is a member of Huntersville First Baptist Church and served on the church's Landscape and Grounds Committee. He served as President of the Huntersville Lions Club in 1982. In 1990 Edwards was the winner of the D.S. Copeland Award as NCAN's Outstanding Nurseryman. Larry is an avid golfer.

Early in his administration, Edwards announced to the Board of Directors one of his goals for the year was to increase membership in SNA by 50 to 100 members, and to place emphasis on marketing by gearing programs to the retailer. He also stated that he felt the Board needs to closely watch dollars and expenses and be more conservative. At subsequent meetings the Board held in depth discussions on the finances of SNA. Especially several ideas for cutting expenses and how best to generate additional income.

Edwards' Board of Directors voted to increase booth costs to exhibitors to \$600 for member firms and \$675 for non members. The increase was scheduled to become effective with the 1994 Trade Show.

Another milestone of the Edwards administration was SNA's agreement to co-sponsor the annual Southern Plant Conference along with the state in which the Conference is located.

## **Don O. Shadow - 1994**

Don Shadow was born into a long-time nursery family. His father, Hoskins is a Past President of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association and the American Association of Nurserymen. He was born in Winchester, TN on October 19, 1940. Don attended grammar and high school in Winchester. He graduated from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 1963. He married Mary Holloman of Athens, TN in 1966. They have one daughter, and one grandson.



Don is the Owner/President of Shadow Nursery, Inc. of Winchester. Don specializes in rare and unusual plants and has a wide assortment of woody ornamentals. He also raises exotic animals, such as ostrich and emu and has several camels, yak, and Watusi cattle. He is involved in the effort to save endangered species.

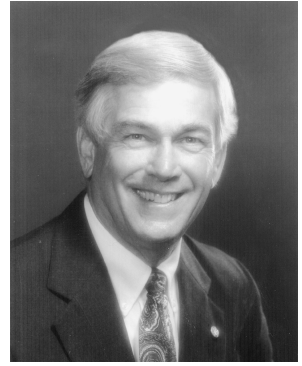
Often in demand as a speaker to nursery and horticultural groups, Don is kept busy by his wide interests in many organizations. He is a Past President of the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association, the Eastern Region International Plant Propagators Society and the Southern Nurserymen's Association. He served three terms on the Board of the National Arboretum and the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees for nine years. He was named the Wholesale Nurseryman of the Year by the Tennessee Association. He received the David E. Laird Memorial Award and the Slater Wight Memorial Award from SNA. He received the Medal of Honor from the Garden Club of America in 1989. He is a member of the First United Methodist Church of Winchester and was President of the Winchester Rotary Club in 1974.

Shadow introduced the idea of developing an international outreach, to promote new ideas as well as new plant development. This work resulted in the initial discussions for making contact with the I.P.M Show in Essen, Germany and developing a program to promote the SNA Show in Europe. As a result, a partnership with the IPM show has developed and has opened the door for hundreds of U.S. and European industry members to meet and do business. Since Shadow's administration, foreign representation at SNA Show has increased substantially.



## **Arthur A. “Buck” Jones - 1995**

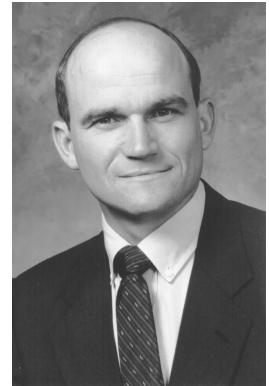
“Buck” Jones was born in Matthews, Alabama November 22, 1939. He attended grammar and high school in Wrens, Georgia. He graduated from Auburn University in 1962 with a major in Horticulture and was President of the Horticulture Forum in 1961 and 1962. He also was a member of Lambda Ghi Alpha Fraternity. Jones was a member of the sales force for Sta-Green Plant Food Company 1964-1970. In June of 1960 “Buck” married Mary Jane Ennis of Auburn. They have two daughters and five grandchildren. In 1972 Jones opened Arthur A. Jones & Associates, Inc. in Grayson, GA. The firm is a wholesale distributor of trees, plants, sod and allied products to the landscape and garden center trade. “Buck” is active in Greater Atlanta Nurserymen’s Association and served as President 1974-75. He is also a member of St. Matthews Episcopal Church and served as Chairman of the Associate Member Committee 1990-91. “Buck” listed his hobbies as snow skiing and traveling.



Jones had a highly successful administration as SNA President. There were many discussions concerning how best to gain new members. During the annual business meeting a net gain of 110 members was announced, making total membership at 1,423, the highest number to date. During the Spring Board Meeting President Jones called for the Directors’ travel reports to date. It was reported that each member -state meeting and other major trade shows had been attended by either the President or a Director. The possibility for a joint meeting between SNA and AAN in 1998 was discussed and approved by the Board of Directors during Jones’ Administration.

## **William H. “Buzz” Barton, Jr. - 1996**

“Buzz” was born in Birmingham, Al on June 26, 1953. He attended Grammar and High School in Tuscaloosa, Al. He graduated from Auburn University in 1975 with a degree in Horticulture. He was a member of Sigma Nu Fraternity. Following graduation, “Buzz” married the former Sally Singelton, they now have two daughters and one son. That same year, Barton joined his father “Bill” Barton in the family business, Barton Nursery & Landscape, Inc.. in Tuscaloosa. The firm is a design/build business specializing in residential and light commercial irrigation and landscape design installation. It also features an upscale retail garden center featuring seasonal gifts. “Buzz’s” sister, Debbie Laycock has played a major role in the retail operation. “Buzz” has taken active roles in both the Alabama and Southern Nursery Associations. He served on Alabama’s Legislative and Education Committees and was President of the Alabama Association in 1991. As a very young man he helped exhibitors move into their booths at the annual SNA Trade Show for several years. He served as SNA’s Trade Show Chairman in 1984. That year he was presented the David E. Laird Memorial Award. Then in 1991 “Buzz” was unanimously elected to SNA’s Board of Directors



and served as President in 1996. “Buzz” and “Bill” Barton became the sixth set of Father/Son to serve as President of SNA. During the Winter meeting of the Board of Directors President Barton described his and Danny Summers’ trip to Essen, Germany to represent SNA at the SNA/IPM International Press Conference which was attended by nearly 20 European Trade Journalists. He reported the partnership between IPM and SNA seemed to be developing nicely. The theme for future SNA Trade Shows was adopted as “The World’s Showcase of Horticulture”. At this meeting the Board approved that trade show registration should be handled in-house instead of using an outside vendor. However, the change would later be postponed until the following year.

During the annual business meeting, August 11, 1996 the annual financial report showed income of \$1,092,327 and total expenses of \$1,055,810. Making a net profit of \$36,517. The total fund balance, which includes investments, was reported as \$317,508. Certainly a record high for SNA funds. Membership in SNA was reported as 1,493, also a new high to end a highly successful year for SNA.

### **John C. Watkins - 1997**

At the time of his election as SNA President, John C. Watkins was serving as a Delegate in the Virginia General Assembly and since has been elected to the Virginia State Senate. This fourth generation nurseryman is President of Watkins Nurseries, Inc., Midlothian, Virginia. Born in Midlothian, on March 1, 1947, he attended Chesterfield County Schools and graduated from Middlothian High School in 1965. John received a B.S. degree in Agriculture/Horticulture from Virginia Tech. in 1969. In 1967 he married the former Kathryn Clawson. They have three sons Michael, Robert, and Ryan. He is a member of Christ the King Lutheran Church.



He served in the U.S. Army from 1969-1971. Watkins is highly active in civic activities including Rotary Club, YMCA, American Red Cross, Historical Society, Friends of the Library, Jaycees, American Legion, and Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce. He served on the Boards of Directors of four Banks in the Richmond area. He is a Past President of the Richmond Nurserymen’s Association. In 1978 John was presented SNA’s David E. Laird Award and was named Outstanding Young Nurseryman of the South that same year. In 1987 he was named Virginia Nurserymen’s Association’s Nurseryman of the Year. He was editor and development coordinator of VNA’s certification manual and program. Watkins has served a number of years as SNA’s Legislative Chairman and was recently appointed to chair the ANLA Legislative Committee.

Following his 1996 election as SNA’s President Watkins addressed the membership and announced his priorities for SNA in the following year. “First, to increase the support of the industry in research for new products. Second, to stress the increased cooperation between SNA and the state and national associations. And thirdly, to think about the fact that SNA is nearing it’s 100th anniversary and we need to take responsibility for knowing as an organization and as an industry where we want to go in the future.

During the Winter Board Meeting, at the recommendation of President Watkins, it was agreed the Board would recommend to the membership a name change from the Southern Nurserymen's Association to the Southern Nursery Association. The logo would, of course, remain the same. During the annual business meeting the name change was approved unanimously. The membership also approved a dues increase for the first time in several years.

### **James M. Zangger - 1998**

Mr. Zangger is President of Greenleaf Nursery Company, Park Hill, Oklahoma, with production nurseries in Oklahoma, Texas and North Carolina. Born January 7, 1943 in Pasadena, California. He graduated from West Covina High School in 1960, attended California State University and Stanford Business School. In 1970, he married Ann Johnson, they have three daughters; Lisa, Amy, and Tracy.



He is a member of St. Brigid Catholic Church where he has served as a Parish Council member and chairman of the building and grounds committee.

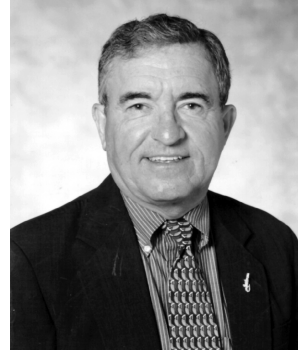
He has served as a board member for the Tahlequah, Oklahoma Education Foundation and also on the Oklahoma State University division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Dean's Advisory Committee.

Mr. Zangger has taken an active interest in nursery industry affairs for many years. He has served as President of the Arizona Nursery Association, President of the Wholesale Nursery Association and President of the Southern Nursery Association. At the summer 1998 American Nursery and Landscape Convention, he was elected as ANLA Director for Region V.

As President of SNA, Mr. Zangger was a strong advocate for association membership and participation at the state, regional and national levels. SNA served as host to ANLA during the '98 Summer SNA Convention and Trade Show. The '98 Trade Show was the first year SNA passed the 10,000 mark for attendance. Mr. Zangger's address to the membership stated, "Our industry will always have excellent large and small companies and provide consumer's with a broad range of services and products of all kinds. Our industry benefits greatly from the diversity of its members."

## **William D. “Bill” Reese - 1999**

Presiding over SNA’s Centennial Celebration in 1999 is William D. (Bill) Reese, owner of Greenbriar Nurseries, Inc. Ocala, FL. Born in Chicago, IL on April 7, 1941. Bill attended High School and Central Florida Community College in Ocala. He founded Greenbriar Nurseries on January 1, 1974. It is a 50+ acre wholesale container plant and tree farm.



In August 1962 Bill married the former Meta Jane Thomas. They now have three daughters and three sons. Two of the boys David and Chris are in the business with Bill. They also have six grandchildren.

A member of St. John Lutheran Church of Ocala, Bill has taught Sunday School for 34 years.

Bill is a member of the Advisory Committee Vocational Education School Board of Marion County. He is a Past President of the Kiwanis Club of greater Ocala, and was named Kiwanian of the year in 1984-85.

Active in nursery and/or horticultural organizations Bill is a former Director and President of the Florida Urban Forestry Council. He has served a Governor - Florida Chapter of the American Nursery and Landscape Association. He also served on the Executive Committee of the Florida Nurseryman and Allied Trade Shows. In 1989-90 he served as President of the Florida Nurseryman & Growers Association. In 1992, he was presented the “Wendell Butler Award” as FNGA’s Outstanding Nurseryman of the Year. In 1997, Reese was the first recipient of the Volunteer Award presented annually by the Nursery Association Executives of North America (NAE).

Bill is a member of Florida Farm Bureau serving on the State Horticulture Committee. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Florida Leadership Program for Agriculture and Natural Resources. He is also Vice Chairman of “Trees for Ocala”.

During his tenure on the SNA Board of Directors Bill has expressed strong interest in maintaining SNA’s national reputation of excellence in all activities. Since moving to the Atlanta area the SNA office has been housed in leased space. In May 1999 SNA purchased a building for its headquarters. Bill worked closely with the Executive Vice President and urged his board of Directors to approve the purchase of the building.