

To: William Dahl, Executive Director
From: Lee B. Kass, Chair
Date: 11 June 2003, revised 6:05 PM
Re: Historical Section Report for 2002-2003

In the summer of 2002 Betty Smocovitis, former section chair, asked Lee B. Kass to chair the section. Larry Davenport offered to serve as co Program Chair for the 2003 meeting. We announced a call for papers in the Winter issue of the Plant Science Bulletin (vol. 48, no. 4 pg. 30-31). We also asked for updated information on postal and email addresses because I found that many of the addresses were no longer valid.

It should be noted that I was not able to contact many members of our section by email because they do not use this mode of communication [especially if they are no longer affiliated with a college or university]. If we are to stay in touch with our section members by US mail we will have to use some of the funds in our budget for postage. This past year I paid the postage out of pocket.

We received 3 of the 4 abstracts that were promised for our section. Unfortunately, one of the proposed abstracts was from a faculty member who was laid off due to financial cutbacks at the University of Nebraska, and consequently she withdrew. I organized the contributed papers session for our section program in consultation with our co-chair. We included time for a discussion session/informal presentations. The session is scheduled for Tuesday July 29, 2003, from 3-4 PM. We also scheduled the Historical Section Business Meeting for Tuesday July 29, 2003 from 4-4:15 PM.

At the Business meeting we plan to elect the following officers:
Program Chair for m Botany 2004
Co-program Chair for Botany 2004
Vice Chair 2004-2007
Secretary for 2004-2007
Treasurer for 2004-2007

We also plan to discuss ideas for future symposia. One idea was a symposium on losing our history as a result of modern technology. Another idea is to support a symposium at Cornell University in conjunction with their centennial celebration of the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell in 2004. The Symposium titled "The Legacy of Liberty Hyde Bailey had been originally proposed for Botany 2001, but was postponed for lack of funding and because some speakers could not make the event. The Centennial Committee has asked me to inquire if the BSA Historical Section might be willing to sponsor the symposium at Cornell in the fall of 2004.

I have noted that the historical section has been allocated \$400.00 --down from a previous allocation of \$700.00 (10/1/01), which apparently was not used. If we plan to organize future symposia or other events, we may wish to request an increase in funding.

Respectively submitted,

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