

Dear BSA Members

I hope this note catches you all well and enjoying the change of seasons. To follow are a few important items of note from the BSA office for your consideration and action.

1. Special note of appreciation to BSA Member Damon Waitt, Ph.D. Senior Botanist, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center for representing the BSA at the Texas Education Agency public hearing regarding instructional materials submitted for adoption by the State Board of Education under Proclamation 2001 in the State of Texas. Read about the experience and the decision in the Winter 2003 *Plant Science Bulletin*.
<http://www.botany.org/bsa/psb/2003/psb49-4.html#Texas>
2. Please take a few minutes to **renew your membership**.
 - You may do so online at:
<https://secure.botany.org/secure/default.asp?!Type=2>. Please note: our site is a secure site and all transactions are processed through Verisign. Using this method we do not see or store any credit card information.
 - For convenience we have added a membership renewal form if you wish to complete this process by mail.
3. The BSA “**expand your possibilities**” membership poster is now available. Don Hauber (hauber@loyno.edu), Chairperson of the Membership Committee, is looking for support to put up a poster or two at your institution. To date Don has been able to place roughly 400 posters with 4,800 “join the BSA” bookmarks at institutions around the US/Canada and at the institutions of members around the world.

Please become involved. Pass your passion for the science of Botany on to the next generation. Remember, new members help support the development of Botany, the support of science in general and represent the future of the BSA. To view the poster/“join the BSA” bookmarks and request the number of posters you may need for placement at your institution go to:

<http://www.botany.org/newsite/membership/mc.php>

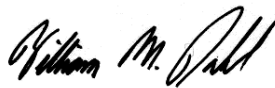
4. The general announcement items included with this note are listed below. The awards offer you fantastic opportunities to recognize the achievements of fellow Botanists, celebrate and highlight the importance the science of Botany and select the future leaders of the Society.
 - Call for **Nomination of Officers**
<http://www.botany.org/newsite/reporting/mail/f03officers.pdf>
 - Call for Nominations – The Botanical Society of America **MERIT AWARD**
<http://www.botany.org/newsite/reporting/mail/f03merit.pdf>
 - Call for Nominations – The Botanical Society of America **BESSEY AWARD**
<http://www.botany.org/newsite/reporting/mail/f03bessey.pdf>

- Call for Nominations – The Botanical Society of America **KARLING AWARD**
<http://www.botany.org/newsite/reporting/mail/f03karling.pdf>
 - Call for Nominations –**YOUNG BOTANIST OF THE YEAR AWARDS**
<http://www.botany.org/newsite/reporting/mail/f03yby.pdf>
5. **Botany 2004** announcements included with this letter are:
 - Call for **Abstracts**
<http://www.botany.org/newsite/reporting/mail/f03abstracts.pdf>
 - Call for **Discussions Sessions**
<http://www.botany.org/newsite/reporting/mail/f03discussion.pdf>
 - Call for **Education Forum Sessions**
<http://www.botany.org/newsite/reporting/mail/f03education.pdf>
 - Call for **UMEB Applicants**
<http://www.botany.org/newsite/reporting/mail/f03UMEB.pdf>
 6. **Thank you** to those of you who chose to receive BSA Fall and Spring mail via electronic means! We had a very positive first response to this initiative. (note from the ED 9-10-2003)
<http://www.botany.org/newsite/reporting/ed/9-10-2003.doc>
 7. **Please update your membership information. We cannot provide you with communications if we don't have up-to-date email addresses.**
<https://secure.botany.org/secure/default.asp?!Type=1>
 8. The BSA Office and Meeting Office each announce a change of address. The new locations are:
 - BSA Office
4475 Castleman Ave. (we moved across the street)
P.O. Box 299
St. Louis, MO 63166-0299

 - BSA Meeting Office
2813 Blossom Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43231
Voice: 614-899-9356, FAX: 614-895-7866

Have a great Christmas! Thank you for your time and participation.

Sincerely



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The Botanical Society of America exists to promote botany, the field of basic science dealing with the study and inquiry into the form, function, diversity, reproduction, evolution, and uses of plants and their interactions within the biosphere.