

A HISTORY OF THE
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
BOTANICAL GARDENS AND ARBORETA, INC.

BY

Gregory A. Nace

A thesis submitted to the Faculty of the University of Delaware
in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Longwood Graduate
Program for the degree of Master of Science in Ornamental Horticulture.

June, 1987

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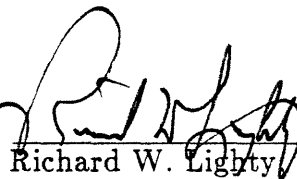
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ABSTRACT

The American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, Inc. (AABGA) has played a significant role in the development of horticulture in the United States. It is the only organization which has continuously represented the interests of North American botanic gardens, arboreta, and their professional staffs.

This thesis chronicles the history and evolution of the AABGA by tracing its development from conception to the appointment of a paid executive director—a span of approximately forty years. During this time, the organization grew from a small committee to about five hundred individuals, and over one hundred institutional members. Dedication by a volunteer membership brought the Association from an informal group of like-minded people to an active professional organization.

Programs and activities of the AABGA over the past four decades have reflected the common interest of these professionals in the field of public horticulture.

Distinct eras in the history of the Association are identified, and the outstanding features of these eras are included in Chapter I. The

history of the Association's programs and activities is presented in Chapter II. and Chapter III summarizes the role of the AABGA, its organizational structure and functions.

INTRODUCTION

Colonial Williamsburg has as its motto: "That the future may learn from the past". Historical museums may use wood and brick to re-create colonial towns, but text and context can also create an image of the past. In each case, a structure can be established to better interpret the history of a community or a group of people. As one looks at these re-creations a pattern begins to emerge. Like the re-creations done in wood and brick, the history of an association such as the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, Inc., read through its documents, can reveal patterns in the way people thought and worked, as well as the ideas and dreams they shared. Just as the architects may learn from buildings of the past, an association of professionals can learn to plot new directions from examples of the past.

By presenting the history of the AABGA, perhaps this study may serve to guide future undertakings of the Association. Interpreting the evolution of the AABGA may invite reasonable expectations of what the Association can accomplish. Also, by understanding the structure of the AABGA, the membership can assess whether their needs are being met within the framework of the organization, and whether this framework is sufficient to

meet the goals and challenges of the future.

Over the last forty years of the organization's history, a number of different approaches to fulfilling membership needs and meeting organizational goals have been explored. There have been members who have been inspired by the Association, and others who have abandoned the Association, their needs unsatisfied.

When Thomas Ewert, Longwood Graduate Student, surveyed the membership of the AABGA in 1972 to determine whether the organization was meeting the professional needs of the membership, only 56% of the respondents answered yes.¹ Clearly, the Association has gone through some difficult periods and faced challenges in meeting the needs of its membership.

As a microcosm of society, the AABGA members function in complex interrelationships with their professional and lay environment. As in society at large and within many organizations, in particular, there are distinguishable patterns that overlay many of the day to day relationships. With an understanding of these patterns, the individual member can better mesh with these dynamic patterns to meet present day needs, heighten individual satisfaction, and help accomplish the goals of the organization. Also, individual members familiar with these patterns may be less inclined to take personally the present problems that exist within organizations such as the AABGA.

The activities of the AABGA have served primarily to bring individuals and the institutions they represent together. What the AABGA represents throughout its history is people working together toward the common goal of expanding the role of horticulture through public gardens. The success which the AABGA enjoys today is a tribute to the vision of the founders, the energy and dedication of its officers, and the many members who have contributed their support and enthusiasm over the years.

INTRODUCTION

FOOTNOTES

1. Ewert, Thomas E., *Survey of Membership of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta*. Masters Thesis. University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, 1972.

CHAPTER I

THE HISTORY OF THE AABGA

In examining the history of the AABGA, five distinct periods emerge:

1) Initiated in 1920, the progenitor of AABGA was the Committee on Botanical Gardens and Arboretums of the American Association of Nurserymen. 2) The first meeting of the AABGA as a discrete organization was held in 1940. This meeting was held jointly with the American Institute of Park Executives (AIPE). The AABGA remained an affiliate chapter of this organization until 1950. 3) The AABGA began as an autonomous organization in 1950. 4) In 1971, the organization received tax exempt status as a 501(C)3 corporation under the Internal Revenue Service Code. 5) The present era began in 1981 with the appointment of a full-time paid executive director. Eras one through four are discussed in this thesis.

I. *THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSERYMEN'S COMMITTEE ON BOTANICAL GARDENS AND ARBORETUMS:*

The number of American botanical gardens at the beginning of this century was few. C. Stuart Gager in 1912 estimated the number to be sixteen of which eleven were college and university gardens.¹ However, in the

early 1920's when the idea for an association of botanic garden professionals was first conceptualized, the interest and support of public horticulture in the United States was definitely on the rise. During the period from 1891 to 1940, an average of two such institutions were founded per year.²

Catching the crest of this wave of popularity was a man familiar to many people in the horticulture world at that time. If the AABGA has acted as a catalyst to speed the evolution of public horticulture, it was Robert Pyle from West Grove, Pennsylvania, who set the string of events in motion.

After Pyle's graduation from Swarthmore College in 1899, he began work in a nursery, and eventually bought into a company known today as Conard-Pyle or Star Roses. Through this man's skill as an organizer, he was largely responsible for the inception of the American Rose Society, Council of Eastern Nurserymen, the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., and the American Horticultural Congress, as well as the AABGA.³

Mr. Pyle was unusually well-suited to influence the growth of horticultural organizations in this country. He had traveled extensively during the first part of this century, attending meetings of nursery and florist organizations abroad and in North America. In his travels, he frequently visited and became familiar with the operation of parks, botanic gardens, and arboreta. Also, his search for new roses frequently took him to Europe, and gave him the opportunity to visit famous gardens in England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Belgium, Holland, Italy, and Spain.

Soon after World War I he persuaded the American Association of Nurserymen (AAN) to campaign for the establishment of a national arboretum. To promote this idea, a committee of the AAN was appointed with Robert Pyle as the chairman leading the campaign. Familiar with this committee, Dr. John Wister wrote the following:

For some twenty years, beginning in the early 1920's, Mr. Pyle was chairman of the Committee on Botanical Gardens and Arboreta of the American Association of Nurserymen, and in that capacity, was largely responsible for the preliminary work which resulted in the establishment of the National Arboretum in Washington.⁴

Formed in 1920, this committee's activities were initially centered around the establishment of an arboretum in Washington, D.C.. Later, this committee played a major role in developing a broad base of interest in botanic gardens and arboreta. The committee compiled and published several lists of data on existing botanic gardens.

In 1930, Chairman Robert Pyle delivered a report of the committee to the general membership of the AAN. Information was presented on the nature and location of fifty botanic gardens and arboreta. Also included in this report was an outline of the essential requirements for the founding of a public garden. This work paralleled that of the American Institute of Park Executives (AIPE) which in 1928, also published guidelines for establishing a botanical garden or arboretum.⁵ Thus, these two organizations independently laid the groundwork for the way in which American public gardens were to be defined.

One reason the AAN became interested in botanic gardens and arboreta was stated in Mr. Pyle's 1931 committee report:

An arboretum is, for the nurseryman, a museum, a library, and a laboratory. It will preserve for successive generations of nurserymen age-old specimens and rarest treasures. As for varietal accuracy and purposes of nomenclature and of identification, it may be his Bureau of Standards.

Even more valuable, however, is the service that a good arboretum may render the plant loving public and to the potential purchasers of plants.⁶

The 1931 report listed eighty-five botanical gardens and arboreta with the names of their directors, by state. This report was subsequently mailed to each institution reported upon.

The 1932 report of the Botanic Gardens and Arboreta Committee was prepared with the cooperation of the Committee on Relations with Trade of the American Society of Landscape Architects, R.H. Wilcox, Chairman; and the Standing Committee on Horticulture of the American Institute of Park Executives, L.P. Jensen, Chairman. In this report, Mr. Pyle acknowledged Mr. Jensen's "important suggestion":

I believe we should urge the executives of all park systems in the United States and Canada, located where there is no arboretum, to set apart a section of park for this purpose.⁷

Also cited in the 1932 report was the high rate of fatality of arboreta, and the need for proper endowment and maintenance provisions which would enable these institutions to exist beyond the life of the founder.

A hundred years service to give strength and stature to some of our forest monarchs, but families of men die out, or sons may not inherit the parents' taste for trees. Man is on the move and his scenes shift rapidly, while the arboretum must be fixed in its abode.⁸

The Morris Arboretum was dedicated to the University of Pennsylvania in 1933, and a brief description of this dedication was included in the 1933 AAN committee report.⁹ This no doubt was meant to serve as an example of properly providing for an arboretum as discussed in the 1932 report.

Mr. Pyle also reported that the AIPE addressed the subject of botanical gardens and arboreta at their annual meeting in September, 1931.

Considerable interest appeared to have been aroused, and cooperation is anticipated by a committee from their body active in the promotion of this idea.¹⁰

Every year since the start of its reporting, the AAN committee under Mr. Pyle added more botanic gardens and arboreta to its list. From an initial report of fifty such institutions in 1930, 218 were listed in 1936. In addition to naming and providing information on these public gardens, Mr. Pyle endeavored to keep the AAN membership well advised with reference to the following:

- (1) The value and importance of arboreta and botanic gardens.
- (2) The fundamental factors required for founding and promoting such an institution.
- (3) Information with regard to name and location.
- (4) New and noteworthy developments in this field.¹¹

This annual information fostered a greater interest in public gardens among many horticulturists. For example, Frederick Law Olmstead, the noted landscape architect, wrote the AAN committee in 1936 expressing his appreciation as follows:

I am very glad to have the list, (of gardens and arboreta) which so far as I know, is the only such list available. It is not looking a gift horse in the mouth to say that it would be still more valuable if in subsequent editions it could make more illuminating distinctions as to the respective quality and scope of the minor institutions.¹²

The committee decided to act on this and similar suggestions toward a more complete directory. A nineteen question survey was sent out to 226 botanic gardens and arboreta to compile a more thorough and accurate record of each institution. Included in this questionnaire was the seed of an idea which developed into the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta. The last question before the director was asked to date and sign the questionnaire read as follows:

19. Do you believe an affiliation of Arboretums, Botanical Gardens, and others especially interested, in the form of a society or association, to be advisable and useful? If so, how and when?¹³

Many left question 19 blank. However, of the sixty- nine who answered it, 16 percent replied in the negative, 10 percent were unsure, and 74 percent of the directors indicated that they thought an association would be a worthwhile endeavor.

A surprising number of those giving the affirmative answer indicated, "Soon". Dr. William I. Crocker of Boyce Thompson Institute replied, "Advisable and useful: the sooner the better". Georgia bespeaks cooperation in efforts and educational facilities. Oregon refers to the useful possibilities for the exchange of plants. From Knoxville, Tennessee, comes the suggestion that the American Association of Nurserymen should take the lead in organizing such a group, and Washington state suggests that it should be a division of the American Association of Nurserymen. H. Teuscher, Director of the University of Montreal Botanic Garden, says, "Right Away", and further suggests that "Parks and Recreation" be used as a medium of publication.¹⁴

In addition to the 31-page directory, the ideas expressed in this survey later became part of the foundation on which the new association was built.

Included in this 1937 AAN report was a synopsis of an address on "Botanic Gardens in Science and Education". This talk was delivered on Founder's Day at Swarthmore College by a man Robert Pyle referred to as a 'student of arboretums', Dr. Stuart Gager, Director of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Dr. Gager stressed the fundamental distinctions between a park and a botanic garden or arboretum.

Another man who was to play a key role in the development of the AABGA was Gordon O. Cooper, a landscape architect from Cleveland, Ohio. A member of the AAN committee on Botanical Gardens and Arboretums, Mr. Cooper was also noted in the 1937 report for his study of arboreta in the United States and abroad. He later became one of the founding members of the AABGA.

Over the years that this AAN committee had been in existence, the major emphasis shifted from the promotion of the National Arboretum to gathering information regarding botanic gardens and arboreta throughout the country. The 1939 committee report presented the status of the National Arboretum project in Washington, D.C., but Mr. Pyle expressed his disappointment at the slow progress being made in this area as follows:

It would appear that our statesmen are willing to appropriate billions for battleships and engines of destruction, while unwilling to grant a pitiable pittance of a pauperium for projects of constructive significance, such as the plant laboratories we advocate.¹⁵

However, Mr. Pyle and his committee were clearly enthusiastic about generally promoting the development of other public gardens throughout the United States. Mr. Pyle wrote that he

recently enjoyed the high privilege of being conducted over a portion of the Arboretum adjacent to the Campus of Cornell University at Ithaca, New York. In company with Professor R.W. Curtis, Mr. Nelson Wells, retained as Landscape Consultant, presented a perfectly

thrilling outline in describing the proposed developments.¹⁶

By 1939, the Committee on Botanical Gardens and Arboretums numbered twelve members representing ten different states.

Obviously our Committee with a membership representing widely separated regions in the Nation, have found it difficult to hold Committee meetings, hence most of our business has been carried on by correspondence, with keen interest and splendid support...¹⁷

Still, the Committee maintained an active role with regard to its directory of public gardens, and in 1939 sent out another questionnaire to keep it up to date. Directors were asked what growth or change had occurred in their botanic garden or arboretum during the past year, their interest in seed exchange, and the value to their institution of a National Arboretum. Another significant set of questions for the birth of the AABGA was asked:

- 2c. Can you see any value to your own enterprise of an organization of Arboretum Executives to meet annually, perhaps during the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in the last week of December each year?
- d. Under what circumstances would you join such an organization?
- e. Would you probably attend 3 meetings out of 5 if held within an average of 500 miles.¹⁸

Of 158 institutions polled, 100 replies were received. In response to the above questions, 83% saw the value of an organization of arboreta

executives; 67% said they would join such an organization, and 74% indicated that they would attend meetings of this organization. Thus, these answers indicated a strong interest in support of an organization like the AABGA.

In addition to running a successful rose nursery, and campaigning for several horticultural organizations and a National Arboretum, Mr. Pyle was eager to see the formation of an association of botanic garden executives. As chairman of the Committee on Botanical Gardens and Arboretums for almost twenty years, he well understood the need for such an organization. One of the early members of the AABGA, Dr. John Wister wrote the following:

The AABGA owes its organization largely to the enterprise and energy of one man, Mr. Robert Pyle of West Grove, PA.¹⁹

Pyle strongly believed in bringing together the many different aspects of horticulture. The AABGA was but one organization which sprang from his idea of unification. For example, Pyle also campaigned to establish an organization called United Horticulture for nurserymen as well as professional and amateur horticulturalists. His persistence over two decades was rewarded in 1946 by the formation of this organization under the new name, the American Horticultural Congress.

In organizing the formation of the association to represent executives of botanic gardens and arboreta, discussions were held among Pyle, Henry Teuscher, director of the Montreal Botanic Garden, C.S. Gager, Director of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, and Donald Wyman, Horticulturist at the Arnold

Arboretum. These leading thinkers in public horticulture agreed with Pyle that closer cooperation was needed among gardens and arboreta. Together they decided to call a preliminary meeting to discuss the idea of an organization to represent public gardens. Dr. Wyman chaired this meeting since he was also chairman of the standing committee on Botanical Gardens and Arboreta of the AIPE. Present at this preliminary meeting held in 1939 were Nelson Wells from Cornell University Arboretum; Dr. Harold A. Senn from the Dominion Arboretum and Botanical Garden in Ottawa, Canada; and Dr. Henry Skinner, who at the time was curator of the Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia.²⁰

Also on the organizing committee were Samuel Baxter, Director of Fairmont Park, Philadelphia; Gordon Cooper, landscape architect at the recently completed Holden Arboretum near Cleveland; Frederick Leissler from Seattle, Washington; and L.P. Jensen from Gray Summit, Missouri.

At this meeting it was decided to launch an organization representing botanic gardens and arboreta which would be based solely on individual memberships, and that this organization would affiliate as a chapter of the AIPE. Affiliation with a larger national organization was believed crucial to the survival of the new association. The American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Association of Nurserymen were also seriously considered for affiliation.

The organizing committee scheduled the first meeting of the new organization for the following year. It was Robert Pyle who had brought the idea of cooperation to botanic gardens and arboreta, but it was Donald Wyman who gave them a motive or reason why they should get together. This reason was to form a network of public gardens to record and exchange information on plant hardiness. Donald Wyman and members of the organizing committee sent a letter and questionnaire to 155 public garden directors to determine if they would cooperate in plant hardiness studies. They received 45 replies from those who said they would support this project (see Appendix 1, p. 118). About half of these forty-five also indicated they would attend the first meeting of the AABGA, and thus became the organization's first members.

II. *THE FIRST TEN YEARS - THE AABGA AS A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PARK EXECUTIVES (AIPE)*

The first meeting of the new organization of individuals representing botanical gardens and arboreta was held at the Hotel Statler in Cleveland, Ohio on September 25, 1940. Scheduled jointly with the annual meeting of the AIPE, the "Arboretum and Botanic Garden Chapter" held an all day meeting which was attended by approximately forty persons. A 'Breakfast Conference' and 'Organization Meeting' began the day, and a trip to the relatively new Holden Arboretum was the highlight of the afternoon session (see Appendix 2, p. 122).

During the first business meeting the by-laws which were drafted the previous evening were approved. Wyman was elected Chairman; Skinner, Vice-Chairman; Clarence Godshalk, Secretary; and Gager and Teuscher were elected directors. Robert Pyle remained a member of the AABGA, but curiously never held office. All those who did serve, contributed or volunteered time from their busy professional schedules. This is still true today with the exception of a paid executive director and office manager in the organization's main office.

The author has not found any record how the somewhat awkward name of American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta was chosen. However, when the still unnamed organization affiliated with the AIPE, it was searching for a model for its by-laws. Another chapter of the AIPE, the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums, or AAZPA, served this purpose. The AABGA adapted this organization's by-laws, and might also have liked the sound of its name.

Even though the AABGA had a modest beginning, there were well conceived programs outlined from the start. Six committees were originally suggested to oversee these programs; they were as follows:

- 1) Membership committee to promote the objectives of the AABGA and recruit members.
- 2) Publication committee to acquaint members with the status and objectives of botanic gardens and arboreta.

- 3) Educational committee to find out what plant groups were being assembled by various institutions, and compile a list of species and cultivars. This committee was also to recommend and publicize noteworthy plants and sources for these plants; and assist with annual meetings.
- 4) Plant distribution committee to distribute rare plants and keep track of trade regulations.
- 5) Standardization committee to select superior horticultural varieties through judging.
- 6) Maintenance committee to advise on new equipment and techniques to reduce maintenance costs.

The AABGA remained affiliated with the AIPE for a period of ten years. Joint annual meetings continued to be held, but the new organization was having its share of problems getting established. Initially, the forty to fifty members in the AABGA were not organized. The Association did have noteworthy goals, but not much was being done to implement these goals on an organizational level. Annual meetings provided the only opportunity for meetings of the committees, officers and board of directors. To a large extent these early annual meetings were dominated by social and non-professional activities.

Insufficient funds, infrequent meetings, and poor communications led to a lack of definite progress on the programs which had been outlined. However, one of the primary objectives of the new Association was being accomplished at this time. Botanic gardens and arboreta were becoming aware of each other's activities. Similar projects and problems were being openly discussed, and the idea of unification expressed by Mr. Pyle was becoming a reality.

Henry Skinner followed Donald Wyman as chairman of the AABGA for the period of 1946-47 and was in turn followed by Carl F. Wedell from the N.Y. State University Agricultural and Technical Institute in 1948-49.

The exchange of information was recognized as an important function from the beginning of the Association. Helping fulfill this role during the early years of the AABGA were three significant plant science publications. John C. Wister edited "Lilacs for America" (1942),²¹ and "Crab Apples for America" (1943),²² was edited by Donald Wyman. These publications under the direction of the Committee on Horticultural Varieties both made a profit for the AABGA. Also, in 1946, Robert Pyle proposed that the AABGA assemble an up-to-date directory of botanic gardens and arboreta in North America. Following a unanimous vote of approval, Donald Wyman took on this project and sent out another round of questionnaires. The result was the third publication, Dr. Wyman's "The Arboretums and Botanical Gardens of North America"²³ (1947). This work drew heavily from the 1939 American Association of Nurserymen's directory, and acknowledged the "special cooperation with the AAN's Botanical Garden and Arboretums Committee, Robert Pyle, Chairman."

As an affiliate chapter of the AIPE, news of the AABGA was published in that organization's magazine.

The official publication of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboretums will be "Parks and Recreation". A special section of this magazine has

been assigned to the new organization, and will make its first appearance in December. Henry T. Skinner, curator of the Morris Arboretum, Chestnut Hill, P.A., will be the editor. Mr. Skinner has accepted the chairmanship of the Publications Committee for the association. A great deal of credit is due to Dr. Wyman and the members of his committee for the efforts they have made to bring about this organization. "Parks and Recreation" welcomes the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboretums into affiliation with the park executives and as a valued contributor to our pages.²⁴

Despite the logistical advantages of being affiliated with the AIPE, there began to develop serious concerns about the AABGA losing its identity under the much larger organization. Although "Parks and Recreation" published an excellent series of articles on public gardens, the founders of the AABGA, who wanted the organization to specifically address the problems of botanic gardens and arboreta, saw that too much attention was being drawn away from these matters. After World War II when meetings were resumed, they were again held simultaneously with the AIPE. This organization which consistently had 300-400 members present at its annual meeting, dwarfed the activities of the AABGA. Meetings had to be sandwiched between sessions in the AIPE's program, and were most often held over breakfast or lunch hour. Nor were the AIPE programs closely allied to the concerns of botanic gardens and arboreta. Many AABGA members also thought that the \$20 fee was too high for membership in the AIPE.

These restrictions led to repeated discussions as to whether the AABGA should stand alone, affiliate with another organization such as the

American Horticultural Council or American Shade Tree Conference, or remain affiliated with AIPE. In a letter to Dr. John Wister, AABGA chairman Carl

Wedell wrote:

...I would be glad to hear from you for I think that something needs to be done to spark the association and enable it to stand on its own feet. It may be that we should not be the tail of someone else's kite at least not the present one and that a connection with another group may be more beneficial.²⁵

Following the 1949 annual meeting, the new AABGA Chairman, Clarence Godshalk, wrote one of the directors, Dr. John Wister that

...it was the opinion of the majority of those present in Detroit, that the AABGA should separate from the AIPE. Having too few present, and the prospects of having fewer at Dallas next year, we feel that the AABGA should for the time being be on its own, and if after trying it for a year or so we feel we need other connections, the possibilities of such connections can be explored.

It was the majority opinion of those present at Detroit that we should separate from the AIPE and have our conventions, meetings, or whatever we wish to call them, at such a place and season of the year that the most can be gained from such meetings. We all felt that a few days together in an area where there is something to be seen of interest to our membership, with a small program which could be gotten up by those entertaining in that particular area, would be much less costly and certainly much more beneficial as far as the AABGA membership is concerned. If something is done like this I believe we will attract members from several other large institutions which are not represented now in the AABGA.²⁶

The officers and Executive Committee decided in 1950 to sever its ties with the AIPE. Official affiliation with this larger organization was dissolved, however, many members questioned whether the AABGA was strong enough to stand alone. The question of independence was a very controversial issue. Many of the founding members who had been with the organization since 1940 decided not to support the AABGA any longer. Even such a dedicated member as Henry Teuscher who had served on the Board of Directors for seven years resigned with the organization's decision to leave the AIPE.

III. *THE AABGA AS AN INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATION: 1950-1971*

After a ten-year relationship with the American Institute of Park Executives, the American Association of Botanic Gardens and Arboreta became an independent organization. Several polls of the membership were conducted to determine the issue of affiliation, but in each case, the results were inconclusive. Some members wanted to affiliate others did not. The ones who favored affiliation could not agree on which organization. Hence there were split votes each time the membership was polled.

Throughout the 1940's, membership in the AABGA grew slowly from approximately fifty members in 1940 to seventy-two in the year before independence. However, in 1950 membership dropped to an all time low of thirty-two. Even Clarence Godshalk, president (1950 - 1951), expressed his doubts about the future of the independent organization as follows:

I am more of the opinion every day that there is not enough interest in the AABGA to continue trying to keep it alive...I am getting out a new questionnaire to see if we can decide between affiliating with the American Horticultural Society and the American Horticultural Council, as those two seem to be the choice of most of our members. If we cannot get enough majority to make that decision then it will be up to someone else to try after my time is up.

I guess it's just a matter of there being already too many organizations.²⁷

Again the results of this questionnaire were inconclusive. No decision was made on the issue of affiliation, and no substantial number of members has since voted to reaffiliate. The indecision on the part of the members must have, at the time, been very unnerving to the officers of the AABGA. We can see, however, that it enabled the Association to forestall relinquishing its independence. This obviously put the leaders in a situation forcing them to either make the AABGA survive or themselves resign.

Fortunately, there were enough members who saw a positive future for the organization. The Association slowly set forth to rebuild and develop, and it did prove strong enough to stand independently. For example, the Horticultural Variety Committee which was established in 1947 and chaired by Dr. John Wister was actively communicating with the membership regarding the quality and general garden value of plant varieties. The membership supported this committee and several others. In 1950 four new committees were begun: the Membership Committee under the direction of C.W. Fenninger; an Education Committee with E.L. Kammerer, Chairman; a

Publications Committee, M. Van Rensselaer, Chairman; and a Plant Introduction Committee, R.B. Clark, Chairman. These committees which had been newly formed indicate that the AABGA was at least attempting to fulfill its members needs on a practical level even while undergoing internal turmoil.

Another example of the high level of membership involvement was the start of its own regular monthly publication. Prior to 1950, the AABGA had been using the American Institute of Park Executive's magazine, "Parks and Recreation", to publish its news. During this time, Henry Skinner was Chairman of the Publications Committee, a post he diligently served. However, when ties with AIPE were severed, the AABGA inaugurated its own "News Letter" in 1950.

In addition to the News Letter, another publication sponsored by the AABGA during this period was a handbook similar to *Lilacs for America*, and *Crabapples for America*. Entitled *Maples Cultivated in the United States and Canada*, it was written by Brian O'Mulligan. This work contained data regarding geographical distribution, botanical classification, propagation, and location of plants in arboretums.²⁸ The Horticultural Varieties Committee played a key role in supporting this project as it had for the previous two handbooks and their revisions. Although these publications were too extensive in scope to be included in the News Letter, another plant survey "Checklist of Hollies" was published in the AABGA quarterly.²⁹

The level of interest in generating checklists was very high among several AABGA members. Several unsuccessful attempts were made in the mid 1950's to cooperate with various plant societies in producing or publishing a checklist.

In the best of these cooperative efforts, the AABGA came close to establishing a joint program with the American Association of Nurserymen. This was not for the publication of a plant checklist, but for promoting commercial plant introduction.

To initiate this effort, J. Franklin Styer who was Chairman of both the Botanical Garden and Arboretums Committee, and the Nomenclature and Plant Name Registration Committee of the AAN invited interested members of the AABGA to a joint meeting in July, 1953. This meeting was "to explore broadly the subject of an arrangement between nurserymen and arboretums for the evaluation of new woody plants."³⁰

At this meeting, a plan was discussed which briefly outlined a program similar to the All American Seed Selections. It was based on the idea of a non-profit corporation evaluating and selecting the best of woody plants. Arboretums and colleges were to grow the plants and cooperate in their introduction. The proposed corporation was to be called either All American Trees, Inc. or Plant of the Year Association. Although the AABGA did not oppose this idea, little support was given to this project and the non-profit corporation never materialized.

Approximately thirty years following Dr. Styer's attempt to interest the AABGA and AAN in the idea of evaluating and selecting superior woody plants, the idea was brought to fruition by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. Currently plants are being tested in conjunction with a proposed J. Franklin Styer Award.

Beyond the merits of the proposed plan, the fact the two organizations met on equal terms to discuss something of mutual concern was significant. This marked the initial involvement of the AABGA with another organization in a position other than a subordinate or an affiliate role. Although tentative and informal, this relationship with AAN afforded the AABGA the recognition it needed in the early 1950's.

This collaboration with the AAN also resulted in a joint annual meeting which was held in Los Angeles in 1956. Joint meetings were not new for the AABGA. However, the previous joint meetings were held primarily to give members a chance to attend two distinct meetings during the same trip. The annual meeting with AAN differed in that it was purposely programmed to allow further exploration of ideas of mutual concern. Members of both organizations began to recognize the synergistic service to horticulture that two organizations working together could achieve.

The large increase of visitors, attracted by the displays of bloom among the great varietal collections, has subtly changed the nature of arboretum work in public education.

This new emphasis makes the arboretums partners of the nursery industry in its efforts to improve the knowledge and taste of the American public, and to "Plant America". We therefore need to explore avenues of cooperation with these institutions, to strengthen them in this work and make better use of the aid they so freely give us.

It will be the aim of this committee to meet with arboretum executives and scientists and encourage closer cooperation. All members of the Association (AAN) are requested to help the committee with suggestions, and by making and keeping the best of local contacts with public gardens of all kinds. The arboretums and botanic gardens of America are the show windows of horticulture.³¹

Cooperation was later to play a key role in the development of several AABGA programs.

One such program which unfolded in the mid- 1950's as a result of further cooperation with the AAN and the American Horticultural Council (AHC) was that of plant registration and introduction. Both of these organizations recognized the importance of evaluating and distributing new plants as well as properly registering new cultivar names. In 1955 the AABGA established its Plant Introduction and Exchange Committee. By 1956 the committee had evolved into the Plant Registration and Introduction Committee and the Committee on Plant Testing. The latter committee surveyed AABGA members to find out which institutions were willing to undertake the testing of new varieties of plants. Cooperating institutions were to be responsible for the testing of particular genera based on the number of species and cultivars they already maintained in these genera. Interest in the

endeavor was heightened by Dr. John Wister's paper "The Introduction of New Plants - What the Members of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboretums Can Do to Help Bring About the Introduction of More New and Valuable Plants for Our Gardens". That paper was delivered at the first AABGA regional meeting held in Santa Barbara with the National Shade Tree Conference in August 1955.³²

As a result of the preliminary work by this committee chaired by Dr. Wister, thirty AABGA institutions volunteered to cooperate in testing new woody plants. In 1956 a meeting was held in Los Angeles to fully discuss the problems and methods of this joint endeavor. In addition to both the AABGA and AAN committees, present at this meeting were sixteen AABGA members, about twenty representatives of Departments of Botany and Horticulture of various California colleges, universities, and experiment stations, as well as over thirty nurserymen. At that well attended meeting it was resolved to establish a joint committee of associations to further work out the details of this cooperative program for both registration and testing. In a letter to Dr. Wister, AABGA president Maunsell Van Renssalaer wrote:

It seems to me that your suggestion for a joint committee of the AABGA, AAN, and AHC on this matter of plant introduction and registration has a good deal of merit... This certainly promises to be the most significant work of the AABGA for this year.³³

Indeed the work which was begun by these AABGA committees was significant even if judged solely in terms of longevity. Dr. Wister led the Plant

Testing Committee for about ten years until the interest on the part of both the AAN and AABGA faded. However, the AABGA's Plant Registration Committee which began at the same time as the Plant Testing Committee is still active at present. (See Chapter II, Programs.)

Through this committee, the American Horticultural Congress granted the AABGA's request to act as the National Registration Authority for the registration of cultivar names of woody genera not covered by other organizations. Part of the AABGA proposal included that registration functions be conducted at institutions of its choice for specified genera of woody plants. At the AABGA annual meeting in October 1959, members unanimously designated the Arnold Arboretum as a registration authority. For two years after this meeting at the Arnold Arboretum in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, the institution began to function as the center for all new requests for information and registration of new cultivars of ornamental woody plants for a variety of plant genera.

In the mid-1950's, the members of the AABGA recognized the service the organization could provide in the interests of horticulture. More than at any time prior to this period, attention was given to matters outside the organization. The existence and survival of the AABGA was definitely established in the minds of the members, and the field of interests of its members expanded into the horticultural community.

Cooperation with other organizations was but one indication of the open nature of the AABGA. The organization began to act as a cohesive group for the purpose of wielding its influence. For example, in 1955 the organization adopted a resolution urging the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and the Director of the Budget to work towards gaining Congressional appropriations for the completion of the National Arboretum and further horticultural research. The AABGA also officially confronted the City of Seattle to oppose a bridge planned to cut across the University of Washington Arboretum. On a less political note, Clarence Godshalk, President of the AABGA, arranged an exhibit about the Association in Rotterdam in 1960.

Up until the mid 1960's, the stated objectives of the AABGA were very similar to those outlined by the founding members.³⁵ Bringing together professionals in public horticulture continued to be AABGA's main priority. Following this, the organization was dedicated to facilitating the introduction and exchange of plants, encouraging the registration of ornamental plant and studying plant hardiness.

These objectives were clearly biased toward research in horticulture and the social interaction of professionals in this field; and to a great degree echoed the purposes which were considered important by public gardens at the time.

Liberty Hyde Bailey realized the public educational value of botanic gardens early this century.

Knowledge and appreciation of vegetation are powerful educational factors, and these assets may be employed to a much greater effect than we are yet aware.

A botanic garden is one of the agencies for the diffusion of knowledge of the vegetable community, although its significance is little understood or appreciated amongst us.

... it should be an integral part of the scientific, educational and art development of its territory. It has a constituency to serve.³⁴

However, it is perhaps ironic that the AABGA was slow to address this area of concern with specific programs. Even though an Educational Committee was one of the initial undertakings of the organization, its aims were different than what L. H. Bailey had envisioned. In 1941 the Educational Committee was devoted to indexing plants. Its first report listed six genera which were grown at thirty-one North America botanical gardens and arboreta. Although in itself an important enterprise, this work was more along the lines of research and only in a very limited sense devoted to educating the public. This emphasis on plant research continued within the Association for over twenty years.

By the mid 1960's, the role of education as we know it today, was just beginning to emerge. While public educational activities in public gardens were legitimized as early as the 1920's by the work of Ellen Eddy Shaw and C. Stuart Gager at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, others did not follow this lead until the 1950's. However, by 1956, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Longwood Gardens, and the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum (LASCA) had started educational programs.

Although slow to recognize the importance of public education, the AABGA did much to facilitate this trend. Documenting the developments in education among botanic gardens, the AABGA News Letter included a review of Dr. Avery's 1957 article, "Botanic Gardens - What Role Today?".³⁶ This article cited education as a significant goal of botanic gardens.

In the next year, 1958, the AABGA reestablished an Education Committee. The newly formed committee under the leadership of Carlton Lees began to design a survey to determine the horticulture education facilities available in the United States. Although the original by-laws of the organization called for a standing Educational Committee, it was not until this year that this directive began to be fulfilled. At the annual meeting in 1959, Chairman Lees discussed the committee's questionnaire. He noted that the information obtained should be useful to botanic gardens and arboreta in establishing or improving educational methods and programs.

In 1960 the Education Committee began to survey AABGA members for printed material pertaining to educational activities. Meanwhile, two outside organizations, the American Horticultural Society and the American Association of Nurserymen, had identified seventeen AABGA member institutions which offered public educational courses. Their survey together with further articles concerning education published in the AABGA News Letter left little doubt that interest in these activities was swelling among member institutions.

Another article published in the AABGA News Letter which cited the importance of education was the address given at the dedication for the opening of Planting Fields Arboretum in 1962. In this address, Dr. George H.M. Lawrence spoke of education as a key role for public gardens.³⁷

Aware of the flood of interest in educational matters, the officers of the AABGA sought to have the organization more actively involved. The officers recognized the lack of progress by the Education Committee, and made Louis Martin, Director of Education at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, the new chairman. Under his direction, the committee began to seek out and document the educational services and programs which could be implemented by the members.³⁸ In 1965 this committee published the results of their inquiry into educational trends in their "Survey of Educational Programs."

Horticultural and botanical educational activities at arboreta and botanic gardens in the U.S. were identified and the committee concluded the following:

Overall, it appears that most institutions are making contact with their communities and offering a widening range of educational experiences to the general public. It must be recognized that where inadequacies seem to be present, the cause may be attributed to lack of available staff, finances, development stage of institution and community demands rather than to the lack of interest or desire by the members of the institution.³⁹

Sixty-eight AABGA members participated in this survey. Clearly, the opportunity to serve the public through education was becoming more accepted among botanic gardens. The administrators of public gardens desired these activities for their own institutions, and expected the AABGA to take the lead in the search for improvements in this area.

Annual meetings also reflected this new-found interest in education. In 1961, the two-day meeting held in Minneapolis stressed the role of education in public gardens. The major content of this meeting was a symposium on educational matters. Dr. Donald Watson, Education Chairman for the American Horticultural Society, was the keynote speaker. He presented a paper entitled, "Educational Work by Arboreta and Botanic Gardens", and began his talk by saying that Americans in the future will look to botanic gardens and arboreta to find well-trained plantsmen. During the next several years, the Education Committee report also became a dominant feature of the annual meetings.

Louis Martin replaced Dr. Watson as the Education Chairman of the American Horticultural Society. Even though Dr. Martin left his post with the AABGA, his educational work with the AHS laid the ground work for another AABGA educational program. Under Dr. Martin, the AHS had proposed and supported the development of an "American Diploma of Horticulture". This project was later to be adopted by the AABGA offering further evidence of a strong commitment to education.

Another program which was begun during this period was the Plant Records Center. Later known as the Plant Sciences Data Center, this program also began in cooperation with the American Horticultural Society. The Educational Committee which was appointed in 1943, intended to compile lists of plant accessions found in member gardens. Other than two original surveys, little was done to implement this early concern. As the number of institutions within the AABGA grew, the task of assembling such a list increased in complexity. A nationwide accounting of plants in public garden collections seemed an unreasonable goal. However, in 1966, a paper entitled "The Application of Electronic Data Processing Methods to Botanical Gardens and Arboreta Records" was presented to members of the International Association of Botanic Gardens by Robert MacDonald. This paper outlined a method whereby such accounting could be done.

Based on the report, the AABGA funded a feasibility study with donations from several member gardens including the Arnold Arboretum, Dawes Arboretum, and Longwood Gardens.

At the same time the American Horticultural Society was considering data processing. Events led to a joint American Horticultural Society-AABGA Plant Records Center Advisory Council appointed in 1967. With a grant from the Longwood Foundation, this council initiated a two-year pilot project. Following this initial period, Longwood Foundation granted \$1.8 million to the American Horticultural Society over the period of ten years for the establishment of the Plant Records Center. (See Chapter II - Collections.)

IV. *THE AABGA AS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION*

By the late 1960's, the AABGA proved to be an organization worthy of the continued involvement of public garden administrators and staff. Correspondingly, there was optimism about the future of the organization. Membership continued to increase and new directions for the organization were plotted.

From a loosely structured informal association, the AABGA progressed steadily over the years in the direction of a more formal organization. The number and complexity of the new programs which began to emerge necessitated a more structured organizational framework. The quality and frequency of committee reports and their presentations can be seen as one example of a more formalized structure. Committee chairpersons found an outlet for their reports at the annual meetings and in the quarterly AABGA Bulletin which was initiated in 1967.

Much of the optimism in the late 1960's for the AABGA seems to stem from the start of this quarterly Bulletin. It served to spread the message of new goals, directions and subsequent programs of the organization to its members. With the Bulletin establishing formal lines of communication, it too was a major step toward a more structured and stable Association. Communication that had not existed before, or had been stretched because of distances, began to flourish. Administrators and botanic garden staff found a

medium with which to relate at some length their needs and ideas; and the editorial staff of the Bulletin encouraged participation by everyone.

The leaders and new members of the AABGA began to recognize the extent of the work that lay before them if the organization was to serve its membership and society at an optimum level. The late 1960's and early 1970's was a period rich in ideas concerning the goals and purposes of botanic gardens and what these institutions represented to society at large. Now the question arose as to how the AABGA was to accomplish these goals.

The Association had resources at its disposal in terms of a large membership and financial stability. Techniques for dealing with the operation of the organization such as the election of officers, collecting dues and producing a bulletin and annual meetings formed part of these organizational resources. The time was right for the growth and expansion of worthwhile programs. However, for the organization to grow and expand, its constitution had to be rewritten. It was evident that the Association needed to incorporate and become tax exempt. In order for the AABGA to receive grants from charitable foundations and individuals wishing tax deductions for gifts to the Association, it was necessary to file for the Internal Revenue Service's 501(C)3 classification. This special tax status meant that the federal government recognized the not-for-profit nature of an organization.

A special committee was formed to investigate changes needed in the 1954 By-Laws and draft the new articles of incorporation. (See Appendix 3, p.

125: By-laws Approved 1954.) At the business meeting of the Association held in 1968, Joseph Oppe, Chairman of this ad hoc committee presented his report. While also fashioning the Articles of Incorporation to qualify for the IRS 501(C)3 classification, the bulk of the changes proposed centered around a revised and expanded statement of purpose for the Association. AABGA President Francis de Vos and the Board discussed these revisions and the Articles of Incorporation and decided to deliver the documents to a law firm (Lee, Toomey and Kent) for any further technical changes which were necessary.

The newly revised Articles of Incorporation were signed and filed with the Office of Recorder and Deeds on February 24, 1971 in the District of Columbia by Ray Brush, Roland M. Jefferson, Erik A. Newman and the initial directors of the incorporated Association. (See Appendix 4, p. 129: Articles of Incorporation and By-laws Approved 1971). The initial directors under the new Articles of Incorporation were Fred W. Freeman, Hidden Lake Gardens, Michigan State University; Everett L. Miller, Longwood Gardens; John Voight, Alfred L. Boerner Botanical Garden; Walter Eickhorst, Morton Arboretum; C. Gordon Tyrell, Winterthur; and Sylvester G. March, National Arboretum.

With the Articles of Incorporation changed, the goals and purposes of the organization were clarified. For example, the educational role of the AABGA was defined for the government, and also for the members and general public.

Incorporation was another step in the direction of increased organizational structure, but more importantly, it was a step toward a more cohesive Association. The goals of the AABGA were outlined, the duties of each officer defined, and the procedure for making decisions was set forth. Supported by this sound organizational framework, members could rally behind the tenets of education and research "for the benefit of the general public." Now a clear, unified image could be superimposed on the activities of the AABGA. With a unified set of policies and purposes, the organization had in place a framework which allowed members to build inter-association relationships which would further the new directions envisioned by the committee which revised the AABGA Articles of Incorporation.

A new era of progressive programs was launched by members not only identifying with the AABGA as an organization, but also identifying with many individuals who encouraged the organization to promote the public service role as appropriate for botanic gardens and arboreta.

The membership and finances of the AABGA reflect equally the growth of the organization from 1950 to 1970. (See Figure I-1).

By 1970 the AABGA had changed its dues structure to include an institutional membership category. Most of the individual members traditionally represented botanic gardens and arboreta, but there were also educators, landscape architects, nurserymen, and a few amateurs in the ranks during this period. Following the shake-up in 1950 over the issue of independence, members have generally supported the organization for many

years - a good indication that the AABGA's programs have served the needs of these professionals.⁴⁰

<u>Finances</u>			<u>Membership</u>		
1950	Income	\$3393.	Individual	32	(dues \$5)
	Expenses	\$ 446.			
1955	Income	\$ 891.	Individual	81	(dues \$5)
	Expenses	\$1447.			
1960	Income	\$1268.	Individual	172	(dues \$5)
	Expenses	\$1217.			
1970	Income	\$3907.	Individual	257	(dues \$7)
	Expenses	\$5296.	Institutional	70	(dues \$25)
1980	Income	\$61081.	Active & Assoc.	564	(dues \$40)
	Expenses	\$61334.	Student	101	(dues \$20)
			Institutional	88	(dues
			Other	20	graduated)

Figure I - 1. Finances and Membership of the AABCA 1950-1980.

CHAPTER I

FOOTNOTES

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CHAPTER II

MAJOR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE AABGA

According to Webster's dictionary, association is defined as a group of people united by a common goal or purpose. As seen in the previous chapter, the goals of the AABGA have changed over the years, and so have the programs and activities of the Association. The activities of an association only exist because of the values, interests and support of the members.

In this chapter, the two types of activities of the AABGA are presented separately. There are those which primarily benefit the members of the Association, i.e., the annual meeting and those which are in part directed to benefit society. The order in which the programs and activities are presented below follows the order listed in the Articles of Incorporation under "Particular Purposes of the Corporation."

Accounts of the programs and activities are presented to provide a more complete picture of the AABGA. The stages of development of the organization as discussed in Chapter I are reflected in the programs and activities.

I. MEETINGS OF THE AABGA

Meetings have played a crucial role in the development of the organization. Dr. John Popenoe, Director of Fairchild Tropical Gardens, has listed five basic purposes of horticultural meetings. They are:

1. To conduct society business.
2. Collect and disseminate pertinent data relating to horticulture in general or in a special field of horticulture.
3. Promote and advance horticultural interests.
4. Exchange information on a personal basis.
5. Gather together socially with colleagues.¹

The meetings of the AABGA fulfilled these tenets, and also initiated and maintained the interest of its members in its various activities. Over the years, the meetings of the AABGA have caused a significant change in how public botanic gardens and their staff perceive themselves, and how they in turn relate to the public.

The importance of meetings in the framework of the Association can be seen in the Articles of Incorporation where the number one purpose of the corporation is listed as follows:

1. To bring together professionals representing botanical gardens and arboreta and educational institutions with kindred interests, for the exchange and development of ideas for the betterment of such institutions and organizations, and for the benefit of discussions and contacts with interested nurserymen, plantsmen and laymen in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.²

A. ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE AABGA

To analyze the role that annual meetings have played within the AABGA, a brief history of these meetings is presented. Following this is a discussion of the content of the annual meetings, the structure of current meetings, and the sites where annual meetings have been held. Finally, a discussion of trends which are evident from reviewing past annual meetings is presented.

HISTORY

Donald Wyman, horticulturist at the Arnold Arboretum, provided the incentive for the first annual meeting held in Cleveland, Ohio on September 25, 1940. He was interested in forming a network of public gardens to record and exchange information on plant hardiness. After sending out questionnaires to 155 institutions, he received replies from 45 persons, half of which indicated they would attend the first annual meeting.

Following this first meeting, the AABGA remained affiliated with the AIPE, and continued to hold joint annual meetings. However, according to an account of the early years of the AABGA, the organization had a difficult time getting established.¹ Members were scattered across the country. Travel to annual meetings was slow and troublesome, and with World War II, all activities of the organization were suspended for about two years.

Little time was allotted to AABGA business while the organization was affiliated with the American Institute of Park Executives (AIPE). After ties were severed with the AIPE, annual meetings continued to be scheduled just prior to meetings of other organizations. This allowed registrants a chance to attend two conferences in one trip. Combining annual meetings was a practice which continued from 1950 until the early 1970's. During this early period, as is true today, the primary stated objective of the AABGA was to bring together professionals in public horticulture.⁴ The annual meeting was the vehicle for this unification of professionals.

In 1973 the AABGA held its first independent annual meeting in Arcadia, California. The Los Angeles State and County Arboretum hosted this meeting which was attended by 93 members (about one-third of the membership).

The 1977 annual meeting marked the beginning of organizing the program around a selected theme which was "Master Plans--What Has the Landscape Architect in Store for You". Subsequent annual meetings have had the following themes:

- 1978 Living Plant Collections--Accident or Design
- 1979 Income Sources for the Botanic Garden
- 1980 Education and Using the Media
- 1981 Resources Available at and for Botanic Garden

Increased time given to contributed papers was also started in 1977. It was agreed by the Executive Committee to have the equivalent of one full

day at each annual meeting devoted to contributed papers. This was later amended to 25% of the total meeting time.

ANNUAL MEETING CONTENT

In 1940 the program for the first meeting (see Appendix 2, p. 122.) began with Dr. Donald Wyman discussing plant hardiness, the questionnaire he sent out, and affiliation with the American Institute of Park Executives (AIPE).

Mr. Pyle next outlined the history of the arboretum idea in the United States. The third speaker, Nelson Wells, discussed activities which the AABGA might undertake, and Henry Skinner spoke of the benefits of having gardens specialize in various plant collections.

These speakers were followed by Dr. John Wister, Director of the Scott Horticultural Foundation at Swarthmore College. He spoke of the difficulties of getting new ornamental plants into the nursery trade. Mr. Pyle's second talk concerned the introduction and distribution of new plants. Samuel Baxter who was Superintendent of Fairmount Park in Philadelphia, then talked about the commercial introduction of Japanese cherries in this country.

After breakfast, Dr. E.D. Merrill, Director of the Arnold Arboretum, discussed the recent advances in horticulture. In particular, he spoke of his predecessor, Dr. C.S. Sargent, and his colleague Dr. E.H. Wilson citing their contribution to horticulture through plant introductions. Finally, Dr. Stuart

Gager discussed garden instruction of school children at Brooklyn Botanic Garden, and the book he was compiling on the arboreta and botanical gardens of the world (illustrated with 'moving pictures'.)

Part of the first annual meeting also consisted of a business meeting. Dr. Wyman was elected Chairman of the AABGA at this meeting, and six committees were initiated.

The following list outlines the annual meeting content from the years 1941-1982.

1941-2. No information available.

1943-5. Annual meetings and all activities of Association suspended-World War II.

1946-7. No information available.

1948. "The Experimental Holly Orchard at Rutgers" was the name talk given by Mr. Robert Clark. This was just after the war, and the Holly Society of America had just been established.

1949. No information available.

1950-2. Proposed annual meetings cancelled because of "not enough interest".

1953-4. No information available.

1955. The official national meeting held in Washington, D.C. was held in conjunction with the American Horticultural Council's 10th Annual Congress. Officers and directors were elected and members transacted "such other matters of business as may be presented for consideration."

1956. Held in Los Angeles, this meeting was just prior to the American Association of Nurserymen's meeting. Members of the Botanic Garden and Arboretum Committee of the AAN discussed how the two organizations could better cooperate to introduce, register, and distribute new plants. There was a tour of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, and a symposium on the "Role of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens in Present Day Community Life". Also presented at this meeting was a report by Robert Woerner about "methods to keep plant records at a botanic garden".

1957. In conjunction with the National Shade Tree Conference, this Philadelphia annual meeting was only held over dinner! Thirty-nine members attended. Officers and directors were elected, further information not available.

1958. This annual meeting was held in Asheville, North Carolina during the sessions of the National Shade Tree Conference. Two directors were elected, and there was much discussion regarding with which organizations the AABGA should hold annual meetings.

The holly breeding program at Rutgers was presented by Dr. Connors; Dr. Russell J. Seibert talked about the history and development of Longwood Gardens; and Dr. Henry Skinner reviewed Dr. George Avery's significant paper "Botanic Gardens--What Role Today?".

1959. Held with the 14th American Horticultural Congress, this one day meeting in Rochester, New York was attended by thirty-four members. There was an election of officers and reports from the four AABGA committees; Education, Membership, Publications, and Registration and Testing. This last report from the Plant Registration and Testing Committee occupied the majority of time spent on the meeting.

1960. Attended by twenty-two members, this meeting held in Boston, Mass. with the National Shade Tree Conference convened at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and "purposes of receiving reports of officers and directors". They elected two directors, and conducted "other business as may be properly done before the meeting". Again, plant registration occupied the majority of time at this meeting.

1961. This two day meeting was held in Minneapolis, MN. just prior to the National Shade Tree Conference. Twenty-five members were present. As for content, it was "hoped that members will make this a symposium on educational matters". Dr. Donald Watson from Michigan State University talked on the "Educational Work by Arboreta and Botanic Gardens". New business and committee reports were also presented.

1962. The 1962 meeting was hosted by a number of botanical gardens and arboreta in Ohio and lasted for three days. Reports by the following committees were a large part of the program: the Azalea Survey Committee, the Education Committee, the Hardiness Survey Committee, the Membership Committee, the Nominating Committee, Plant Testing Committee, the Publications Committee, and the Registration Committee.

1963. Following the American Horticultural Society's 63rd Congress, the AABGA held its annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri. Thirty-five members and guests were present. Committee reports again occupied a large portion of the meeting. These reports were followed by a "Symposium on Special Collections" with talks by Dr. Fogg of the Morris Arboretum, Mrs. Dorothy Hansell of the New York Botanical Garden, and Brian O. Mulligan from the University of Washington Arboretum.

1964. Hosted by Planting Fields Arboretum in New York, this meeting was attended by the largest number of members to date, 68. The meeting was held in conjunction with the 19th American Horticultural Congress and included several guided tours to other area gardens. Together with these tours, the Education and Registration Committee reports were the dominant features of this meeting.

1965. The annual meeting was hosted by Callaway Gardens in Georgia. The future of annual meetings was discussed, and the regular feature of committee reports was heard. Southern gardens and gardening appears to have been the focus of this meeting.

1966. The annual meeting this year was completely integrated with the International Horticultural Congress in Maryland. A short business meeting was held one morning during the Congress at which time the Association voted to sponsor a test program for the computerization of plant records at botanic gardens.

1967. Held in Hamilton, Ontario and hosted by the Royal Botanic Garden, this annual meeting was held just prior to the American Horticultural Congress in Cleveland, Ohio. There was a tour of Niagara Falls and the Niagara Park's Commission School of Horticulture. "In response to requests, considerable time is being reserved for study and business...well integrated with tours and social events."⁵ After Dr. Seibert's talk, "A Need to Know Which Plants Tolerate and Resist the Effects of Air Pollution", a committee to study this was appointed by the AABGA President, Leslie Laking. Another paper presented was Dr. Richard Howard's "The Image and Role of the Botanic Garden", which was later reprinted in the AABGA Bulletin.

1968. This two-day annual meeting was held in San Francisco just prior to the American Horticultural Society's meeting. Joseph Oppe presented his committee's recommended changes to the Articles of Incorporation. There was discussion of these proposed changes, and it was left to the board to make the changes as necessary. Vocational training was discussed, and there was a resolution to update and republish Dr. Wister's handbook on Lilacs.

1969. The annual meeting held in Wilmington, Delaware just about doubled the normal attendance figures. Mt. Cuba Botanical Park, Winterthur, and Longwood Gardens were the co-hosts for this three-day meeting. Tours of the area's private gardens were the emphasis of this meeting. Dr. Richard Howard presented a paper before the annual banquet entitled "Plant Hunting in the Grocery Store".

1970. Miami, Florida was the site chosen for this annual meeting, thirty years after the original meeting. It was a one day meeting which began with a business meeting including the treasurer's report, and committee reports. 'Special topics' were discussed such as Dr. Richard Howard's "Plant Record Center", a talk on management practices, and R. Henry Norweb's talk on horticulture within Israel. In the afternoon, there was a tour of Fairchild Tropical Garden. This meeting was held in conjunction with the 25th American Horticultural Congress. Many of the AABGA members also participated in this organization's meeting. A placement service was also initiated at this meeting.

1971. This AABGA meeting was scheduled to allow members to attend the American Horticultural Congress' meeting also. These meetings were held in different cities however. The AABGA's meeting was hosted by the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois. About sixty people attended and tours were led to the Morton Arboretum's Prairie Restoration Project and the Indiana Dunes. Committee reports were given by the Air Pollution Committee,

Registration Committee, Membership Committee, Publication Committee and the Placement Service Committee.

1972. Again the AABGA meeting was scheduled with the American Horticultural Congress, and held in Seattle, Washington in September of this year. A citation was given by the AABGA at the annual meeting to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Arnold Arboretum. "Botanical Gardens-- Who Needs Them?" by James Bethel was the keynote address of the meeting.

1973. Hosted by the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, this meeting was attended by 93 registered members and guests. Three symposia were presented on three consecutive days of the meeting. They were: "The Wonderful World of Plants in Southern California", "Future Directions for the American Association of Botanic Gardens and Arboreta", and "Educational Programs at Arboreta and Botanic Gardens". Also included at this meeting was a report by the newly founded Committee on Endangered Species.

1974. Four symposia contributed to the content of this annual meeting which was held in Boston, Mass. They were: "Buds, Blossoms, and Binary Bits", led by Roy Taylor; "Libraries and Our Problems" with Chairman Gilbert Daniels, "Relations of Nurseries and Botanical Gardens" led by William Flemer, III, and "Plant Evaluation--Another Try?" chaired by Dr. Richard Lighty. In addition to the business meeting there was also a talk on "Fund Raising" by George A. Brakeley, Jr.

1975. The 1975 annual meeting which was held on the island of Kauai in Hawaii was preceded by the AABGA Bulletin publishing articles about Hawaiian flora and gardens, a practice which was later to become standard. Most of the talks at this meeting centered around tropical plants and their use on the mainland, their introduction, and their preservation. Reports were presented by the Education and Placement Committees.

1976. In May of this year, the annual meeting was held in the Philadelphia area. There were numerous contributed papers at this meeting and a major symposia on the "Future Directions of the AABGA". The form of this annual meeting closely resembled that of the current annual meetings except no overall theme was designated.

1977. Hosted by the Missouri Botanic Garden in St. Louis, Missouri, this meeting was the first to have a central theme - "Master Plans, What the Landscape Architect Has in Store for You". A panel discussion on special problems as they relate to the design of a botanic garden was also presented at the meeting and published in the AABGA Bulletin.

1978. Held in Ontario, this meeting was hosted by the Royal Botanic Gardens. Continuing the idea of having a specific theme, this meeting's was "Living Plant Collections-- Accident of Design?". Three symposia were presented to expand on this theme: "Institutional Plant Collections", "Towards More Use of Ornamental Collections" and "Responsibilities for the Development and Control of Living Collections". A series of selected papers

were published in the AABGA Bulletin Vol. 12 No. 4, October, 1978.

1979. "Income Sources for Botanic Gardens" was the theme for this annual meeting held in Denver. Panel discussions included "Increasing the Operating Budget", "Special Events in Fund Raising", and "Capital Fund Campaigns". 'Rap Sessions' were introduced to annual meetings and were led by experienced members on a variety of topics. The keynote address was on the issue of financial accountability by the President of the New York Botanical Garden, Howard Irwin.

1980. Hosted by the Fernbank Science Center in Atlanta, Georgia, this meeting explored "How to Reach the Public Through the Media", and "How Science Centers, Museums, and Botanical Gardens are Reaching the Public". Contributed papers were presented on topics relating to the use of various media, and special exhibits.

1981. "Resources Available At and For Public Gardens" was the theme of the 1981 meeting held in San Mateo, California. Workshops were conducted on topics like "Managing Financial Resources", and "Grant Writing". Prior to the official opening of this meeting there was an American Association of Museums workshop on accreditation for those AABGA members who had pre-registered.

STRUCTURE OF CURRENT MEETINGS.

Recent AABGA annual meetings have included many of the following features:

- * Pre-tours
- * Mid-meeting tours (study tours)
- * Post-tours
- * Board of Director's meeting
- * Business meeting
- * Committee meetings
- * Committee reports
- * Treasurer report
- * Elections
- * Symposia
- * Demonstrations
- * Invited papers
- * Contributed papers
- * Workshops
- * Exhibits (commercial and institutional)
- * 'Rap sessions'
- * Panel discussions
- * President's reception and awards dinner
- * Hospitality room

ANNUAL MEETING SITES.

The following list shows the year and location at which annual meetings were held:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 1940 | Cleveland, Ohio, Hotel Statler, September 25. |
| 1941 | Lisle, Illinois, Morton Arboretum. |
| 1942 | Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, Scott Horticultural Foundation. |
| 1943-5 | None |
| 1946 | St. Louis, Missouri, Missouri Botanical Gardens. |
| 1947 | San Francisco, California. |

- 1948 Boston, Massachusetts, Arnold Arboretum.
- 1949 Detroit, Michigan.
- 1950-2 None
- 1953 Lisle, Illinois, Morton Arboretum.
- 1954 Boston, Massachusetts, Arnold Arboretum.
- 1955 Santa Barbara, California (regional).
- 1955 Washington, D.C.
- 1956 Los Angeles, California, Los Angeles State and County Arboretum.
- 1957 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 1958 Asheville, North Carolina.
- 1959 Rochester, New York, Hotel Sheraton, October 10.
- 1960 Boston, Massachusetts.
- 1961 Minneapolis, Minnesota, Hotel Leamington, August 23-24.
- 1962 Wooster, Ohio, May 31 - June 2.
- 1963 St. Louis, Missouri, Chase-Park Plaza Hotel, October 12-13.
- 1964 Oyster Bay, Long Island, New York, Planting Fields Arboretum, October 3.
- 1965 Pine Mountain, Georgia, Callaway Gardens, October.
- 1966 University of Maryland, Maryland, August 17.
- 1967 Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, Royal Botanic Gardens.
- 1968 San Francisco, California, Fairmont Hotel, September 15-17.
- 1969 Wilmington, Delaware, Mt. Cuba Botanical Park, Winterthur and Longwood Gardens, September 12-16.
- 1970 Miami, Florida, Fairchild Tropical Garden, Hotel Deauville, November 5.
- 1971 Lisle, Illinois, Morton Arboretum, September 17.
- 1972 Seattle, Washington, September 4-9.
- 1973 Arcadia, California, Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, April 16-19.
- 1974 Boston, Massachusetts, Arnold Arboretum, October 4-8.
- 1975 Kauai, Hawaii, Pacific Tropical Botanic Garden, Olu Pua Gardens, September 4-8.
- 1976 Philadelphia, PA, Wilmington, DE, Longwood Gardens and a consortium of Philadelphia public gardens, Sheraton Brandywine Inn, May 13-18.

- 1977 St. Louis, Missouri, Missouri Botanical Gardens, April 21-25.
- 1978 Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, Royal Botanic Gardens, McMaster University, May 27-31.
- 1979 Denver, Colorado, Denver Botanic Gardens, Colorado Women's College, July 15-21.
- 1980 Atlanta, Georgia, Fernbank Science Center, April 11-13.
- 1981 San Mateo, California, Villa Hotel, May 3-9.

TRENDS INDICATED BY THE AABGA ANNUAL MEETINGS

From the program of the first meeting and the committees which were subsequently formed and active, one can sense how much of the organization's emphasis was initially on plants and plant collections. This is understandable since the early officers were by and large horticulturists and plant oriented people. This emphasis on plants continued, but gradually more emphasis began to be placed on matters such as the "Role of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens in Present Day Community Life" which was a symposium at the 1956 annual meeting.

There are basically three functions of botanic gardens that are recognized today: research, display, and education. Correspondingly, much of the emphasis of the organization has been in these areas. In the early years of the Association, most of the programs appear to reflect the members interest in research, or expanding the knowledge of plants in a botanic garden. In 1956 the importance of the display function is addressed by such articles as Longwood Garden's Director, Dr. Seibert's "Display in the Development of the Arboretum" and Dr. Samuel Ayers' "Civic Beautification".

The third function of a botanic garden, that of education, was introduced to the membership at the 1958 annual meeting by Dr. Henry Skinner. He reviewed Dr. George Avery's article "Botanic Gardens--What Role Today?" Dr. Avery was a pioneer in the field of educational programs for botanic gardens, and wrote

"Even if all the 100 or so botanic gardens and arboreta in North America were to set up the popular education program that the nation needs, they would reach but a fragment of the potentially interested population".⁶

The main points of Dr. Avery's papers were significant in that they led the way for the educational programs which were just beginning to emerge. In addition to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden where Dr. Avery worked, there were, at this time, only a handful of institutions which offered educational programs. However, the concept of botanic gardens taking an active role in the education of their public was soon realized thanks to the initiative of a few members who shared their ideas at annual meetings.

Recently documenting the importance of this trend was Philip Correll's survey of botanical gardens and arboreta. He found that 87% of those garden directors who responded to his survey rated "providing educational experiences" as important or very important.⁷ From 1956-1976 when this survey was taken, the role of education went from a mere handful of programs to the number one priority nationwide among public gardens, a trend which was to a large degree influenced by the programs of annual meetings.

Longer meeting times became an issue at the 1960 annual meeting. Because meetings were held simultaneously with the meetings of other organizations, many of the AABGA's meetings had to be held at meal times. In addition to the distraction of dessert, this also "shortens the time for consideration of our problems." Exploring the possibility of longer meetings, a questionnaire was sent out to the membership in 1961. The majority of members favored a two-day meeting. Hence, in 1961 there began the first two-day meeting devoted to the AABGA. The 1962 meeting was further lengthened to three full days and was the "largest and one of the most interesting programs the Association had". This three-day length for annual meetings is something which became standard.

By 1962 the number of committees of the AABGA had grown to eight, and much of the annual meeting was devoted to their reports.

At the annual meeting in 1965, many members voiced the opinion that the organization should hold periodic or possibly alternate meetings alone. This was to encourage more discussion of matters "particular to us arboretum and botanic garden personnel". Although the following year's meeting was completely merged with another organization's meeting, the time was right for independent meetings. In 1967 the annual meeting was independent although it preceded another organization's meeting in another city. (Hamilton, Ontario and Cleveland, Ohio.)

The year of the first meeting outside the United States was 1967. It was a very successful meeting with many compliments to the Canadians such as "well planned, well organized" and "it was a record breaker in attendance too!" Most of the sites for annual meetings had centered around the Eastern Seaboard, the Great Lakes States, and California. Indeed, only a few meetings (1946, '58, '65) had been held in the south, and certain parts of the country were neglected completely for annual meeting locations.

One of the tasks to be assigned the first Educational Committee in 1940 was to assemble a list of plant accessions found in AABGA member gardens. Although recognized as important early in the Association's history, not much was done to implement this concern. However, with the advent of the computer this was about to change. At the annual meeting held jointly with the International Horticultural Congress and the International Association of Botanic Gardens, a paper was presented entitled "The Application of Electronic Data Processing Methods to Botanical Gardens and Arboreta Records" by Robert MacDonald.

Members who attended the 1966 annual meeting recognized the importance of a new method to manage plant records, and were quick to act to implement this concern. Reports of the progress of the Plant Records Center which was sponsored by the AABGA and American Horticultural Society subsequently became a regular feature of the annual meetings.

From 1973 to the present, the annual meetings of the AABGA have been noticeably richer in content. Moving away from an earlier emphasis on social aspects, the organization has become increasingly more professional. According to the AABGA Bulletin the 1973 annual meeting did much "to restore a confidence in this Association which many members felt was lacking." Indeed, if one compares the programs of the annual meetings of the 1960's with the programs ten years later, the richness of the subject matter at later annual meetings becomes apparent.

In the mid to late 1970's, the content of the annual meetings reference the hard financial times that many gardens were facing due to the rising costs of operation. "Fund Raising" by George A. Brakeley, Jr. was the first of those talks in 1974. This was followed by Dr. Francis de Vos' "Nurturing Public Support--Time, Talent, and Money", and in 1979 the theme for the entire annual meeting was "Income Sources for Botanic Gardens". This was followed by a similar theme planned for the 1981 annual meeting--"Resources Available At and For Botanic Gardens".

With today's increased competition for the leisure time and money, the AABGA's role has become increasingly more important to inform and guide its members toward winning public support.

Within the Association there has also been an increased responsiveness to the needs of the membership as evidenced by the number of committees which have investigated the changes AABGA should undertake.

An example of this can be found in Joe Oppe's Future Direction Committee which suggested changes in the By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation in the early 1970's. In reviewing the topics which were presented by influential members at AABGA annual meetings, there have been a significant number which have addressed the role of botanic gardens. Starting in 1940, at the first meeting, Nelson Wells talked about various activities the AABGA could initiate. In 1956 there was the symposium on the "Role of Botanical Gardens in Present Day Community Life". Dr. Avery's 1958 paper "Botanic Gardens--What Role Today?" was followed by Dr. Watson's talk "Educational Work by Arboreta and Botanic Gardens" in 1961, and Dr. R. Howard's "The Image and Role of the Botanic Garden".

Over the history of the AABGA, there has been an awakening of the public service role of botanic gardens. The function that education now plays within the Association is but one indication of this increased awareness.

The AABGA annual meeting has served to initiate many changes within the organization, as well as within the member institutions. The annual meeting has done this by serving as a forum for the exchange of timely ideas within the profession.

B. REGIONAL MEETINGS OF THE AABGA

Regional meetings within the AABGA emerged to further meet common needs of the membership, and specifically to serve the needs of geographically related institutions.

The initial interest in a distinct AABGA region came in 1951 when the AABGA News Letter presented an all- western edition (issue Number 8, October, 1951). This issue assembled news of every botanic garden and arboretum on the Pacific Coast, an area with many public gardens.

The next year a western chapter of the AABGA was formed and the June, 1952 issue of the AABGA News Letter carried this report:

At the annual meeting of the Western Chapter, National Shade Tree Conference, held at Pasadena May 14-16, a breakfast meeting of several members or prospective members of the A.A.B.G.A. was convened on the 15th, at which a Western Chapter of the Association was inaugurated. Those attending included B.O. Mulligan, Maunsell Van Rensselaer, Dr. Russell J. Seibert, George Spalding, Ronald Townsend, Robert Woerner.

In view of the number of arboreta and botanic gardens in central and southern California it is much to be hoped that this may become an active center for exchange of information and plant material, and that regular meetings can be held. Mr. George Spalding, Superintendent of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, has agreed to act as Secretary, with myself (Brian D. Mulligan) as Chairman, both pro-tem.

The area covered will include the states of Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and the Province of British Columbia. A.A.B.G.A. members in that region will automatically become members of the Western Chapter."⁸

Following the inaugural meeting, a large West Coast meeting took place in 1955. Two official AABGA meetings were held in this year and the

one which took place in Santa Barbara, California was called a regional meeting.

The first regional meeting was held during the course of the National Shade Tree Association Conference held in Santa Barbara from August 1-5, 1955. A good turnout of sixty-seven persons represented botanic gardens and arboreta from throughout the Pacific Coast region. Chairman of the meeting was Maunsell Van Rensselaer, Director of the Saratoga Horticultural Foundation. Also in attendance was Clarence Godshalk who reviewed the present condition and "Probable Future Developments" of the Morton Arboretum. Dr. Wister, President of the AABGA from the Scott Horticultural Foundation was unable to attend this meeting, but sent an in-depth letter explaining the current state of affairs of the AABGA.

With this letter to the members attending the first regional meeting, Dr. Wister sought to expand the interest of the western members in the national AABGA organization. Many examples were given to these members of how they might contribute to the goals of the AABGA at large.

No evidence of support or encouragement from the larger AABGA organization followed this initial western regional meeting. Although the regional meeting was not officially opposed, there were no more AABGA regional meetings in the next eighteen years.

This sphere of activity for the AABGA was again brought to the surface at a time when the goals and directions of the organization were being

given close scrutiny. Under AABGA President Joseph A. Witt, a full issue of the Bulletin was devoted "to changes within the AABGA which could make our organization more responsive to the needs of the membership" (Vol. 6, No. 2).

One of the articles in this issue entitled "A Plea for Change" by Angus Paxton Heeps called for the formation of local chapters which could "discuss regional issues". The East Coast was cited to be "particularly fortunate in having so many gardens within a relatively small geographic area". Mr. Heeps also suggested a one-day program since it would be easy to organize.

Also in this issue devoted to changes within the AABGA were the results of a survey of membership opinions. Funded by the Longwood Foundation through the University of Delaware's Longwood Program, student Thomas Ewert reported the following:

Several members suggested regional meetings as a means of expanding communication among members. Regional meetings should not, however, cause a decrease in the participation at the annual meeting. Some of the reasons mentioned for holding regional meetings include: offering a time and place for discussing problems and items of interest relative to that region in particular; offering members a chance to visit other arboreta and botanic gardens in their region which they might not otherwise find justifiable; and making it possible for members who cannot attend the annual meeting, be it for reasons of time, finance, or whatever, to have the opportunity to meet with other people in or interested in the arboretum and botanic garden field, even though

it would not be on as large a scale as the annual meeting.

The idea of installing regional officers, or a regional representative, might be a means of encouraging membership recruitment and stimulating member interest in those areas of the country where membership is currently low.⁹

Responding to these and other suggestions of merit at the time, AABGA President Joseph Witt assigned Joe Oppe and the members of his newly formed Committee on Future Directions the task of fully investigating "the challenges posed".

At the annual meeting report of his Ad Hoc committee in 1972, Chairman Joseph Oppe stated:

It was realized that there was little opportunity for all echelons of personnel of the botanic gardens and arboreta to participate in the annual meeting. To correct this deficiency it was agreed that the concept of regional meetings should be promoted thus allowing staff members, who are unable to attend the annual meeting, the opportunity to participate on a regional level in the activities of the Association.¹⁰

Based on the committee's recommendations, steps were taken to create regional chapters of the AABGA. Guidelines for meetings, geographical boundaries, and a site and program for the initial mid-Atlantic Regional meeting were decided by representatives of public gardens in the southeastern Pennsylvania-Delaware area.

After the organizational meeting, the first mid- Atlantic Regional meeting was held on January 10, 1973, at Longwood Gardens. About seventy people attended. The program for this first meeting was designed to discuss topics of mutual concern and ideas for future sessions. Participants divided into four different interest groups: Administration, Education, Collections and Maintenance. Subsequent mid-Atlantic regional meetings were held in quick succession: September 1973, May 1974, May 1975, and the annual meeting was held in southeastern Pennsylvania in May of 1976.

Regional meetings caught on quickly in other parts of the country as well, and by 1976, there were five AABGA regional chapters. (See Appendix 5, p. 136.) The pioneering work on structuring the regional organizations within the framework of the national Association fell to Bob Bickelhaupt and his Regional Organization Committee which was appointed by President Roy Taylor.

Procedures for the administration of the regional organizations followed many rounds of discussions. Briefly, the regional organizations were required to work within the framework of the national organization. For each regional meeting, a chairman was to be elected by the region to serve as Convenor for the current year and this person was to be responsible for planning and holding the regional meeting. After each regional meeting, reports of the substance of the meetings were to be forwarded to the Executive Director and the AABGA Newsletter. Also, the Vice President of the AABGA was to be responsible for the relationship of the regional organizations to the

national Association.

Since the time the regional idea started on the West Coast, the rationale for holding regional meetings was to permit junior staff members to attend professional meetings. This interaction between the staffs of similar institutions was to allow discussion of mutual problems and experiences. The major negative concern of many members of the national association at the time of structuring the regional groups was the development of "splinter organizations" which would break apart and weaken the relatively small national organization. However, in looking back over the past decade, it appears the regional organizations have contributed to closer ties between the members of the different geographical areas and in turn, a stronger bond to the North American AABGA organization.

II. *PUBLICATIONS*

Under the AABGA Articles of Incorporation, the first purpose listed for the corporation is to "Bring together professionals representing botanic gardens and arboreta." The annual and regional meetings have clearly satisfied this goal. However, the further goal of promoting the "exchange and development of ideas" has been effectively apportioned throughout the history of the AABGA by the emphasis the organization has placed upon written communication or publications.

Even before the AABGA was organized, information regarding public gardens was being provided by the reports of Robert Pyle and his Committee

on Botanical Gardens and Arboretums of the American Association of Nurserymen. Committee Chairman Pyle published yearly reports during the 1930's highlighting the location and activities of botanic gardens and arboreta. In 1939 in answer to a survey being conducted by the committee, the Director of the University of Montreal Botanic Gardens, Henry Teuscher, answered affirmatively to the question of whether there should be a professional organization representing botanic gardens and arboreta. He went on to suggest that the publication *Parks and Recreation* be used as the medium of publication for the new organization.

After the AABGA was launched and became affiliated with the American Institute of Park Executives in 1940, a Publication Committee was appointed with Dr. Henry Skinner of the Morris Arboretum as Chairman. The charge of this committee was to acquaint members with the status and objectives of botanic gardens and arboreta throughout the country.

During the ten-year affiliation with the AIPE, news of the AABGA was published in a special section of AIPE's official magazine *Parks and Recreation*. Dr. Skinner diligently remained editor over this period.

In 1950, the AABGA launched its own publication--the News Letter. Designed as a means for inter-organizational communication, the publication served to lessen the gap caused by the physical distance between its members. The first News Letter was prepared by Mrs. Raymond Watts and Mr. E.L. Kammerer of the Morton Arboretum. The initial purpose was to "ensure early

action" by the membership on the proposed new organizational By-Laws which had been sent to members for approval.

Emphasizing each member's contribution, President C.E. Godshalk also from the Morton Arboretum wrote in the first issue:

...the News Letter is intended to serve as a medium for the free expression of your opinion, it is hoped that you will, all of you, send in ideas and suggestions before the next issue appears. Only by such participation can decisions be ruled on matters of importance.¹¹

Godshalk proposed that each member have the opportunity to be responsible for an issue of the News Letter so that the work wouldn't become a "a burden to any one individual or institution."¹²

A high percentage of members did participate in editing and submitting articles for publication. Many members sent home-spun news of their institution such as "Arbor Day at the Hoyt Arboretum", "Katusura Tree at Highland Park", or "Water Lilies in Winter in New Hampshire". Thus the News Letter served to familiarize members with the different botanic gardens and arboreta, their activities, problems and goals.

To further open the lines of communication, the first News Letter began the tradition of including a small editorial, summarizing the recent activities of the AABGA and listing the Association's officers. Issues of the News Letter subsequently included information on the committees and their respective activities.

While the content of most early issues was admirable, the appearance did not match. Having different editors solved the problem of a burdensome workload, but it also meant that initially the paper stock, type style, and layout design changed with each edition. Realizing these drawbacks to the publication, Dr. John Wister in 1955 wrote that it

...would be more dignified if it were printed. We all agree with that, but for the number of people served and the cost of printing, it seems to be too large in proportion to our other expenses.¹³

Gradually, the News Letter began to look more professional. The masthead underwent several changes and in 1958 the name was changed to the Quarterly Newsletter. Lead articles on a current topic of interest began in 1962. The format then underwent a major design change in 1967, and the publication was again renamed, this time as the Arboretum and Botanical Garden Bulletin. The new title served to escape the then controversial terms arboreta and arboretums. This change followed a suggestion by ex-AABGA president M. Van Rensselaer. He believed that changing the name of the publication from Newsletter to Bulletin would indicate a publication emphasizing horticultural contributions rather than news items. Also, by this time, the additional cost of printing vs. mimeographing was accepted. Dorothy E. Hansell began as editor in 1967 and faithfully carried on these duties until 1973.

Since AABGA's independence, the quarterly publication has served as an appropriate means to communicate with the membership on several different levels. It has offered scientific articles, information about various

institutions and their staffs as well as general horticultural subjects. Most importantly, it has served over the years to strengthen and build cohesion within the organization.

In January 1975, the AABGA Newsletter was reborn. Recognizing the need to exchange timely information, the Association began publishing a monthly newsletter for its members. Coordinated by Webster R. Crowley of the Morton Arboretum, the initial purpose of the Newsletter was as follows: 1) To publish notices of meeting; 2) Inform members of plant materials and equipment and availability of surplus plants; 3) Print notices of new publications and films by member institutions, and; 4) To solicit AABGA award nominations.

From its single page start, the Newsletter grew in size and quality of content. It soon became a forum to discuss significant AABGA issues such as the North American Diploma in Horticulture Program, news of the AABGA regional organization, the Las Cruces project, and the establishment of an executive director for the organization.

In general, the Newsletter provided a favorable and contemporary means to recognize the accomplishments of members, report on the activities of the Association and keep members informed of issues relevant to botanic gardens and arboreta.

In addition to the role of communication that was fulfilled first by the News Letter, then the Bulletin, and later by the Newsletter, there have been

other significant publications sponsored by the AABGA. Soon after the start of the organization in 1940, the Chairman, Donald Wyman, appointed not only the 'housekeeping' committees of Membership, Nomination and Publication, but also a Committee on Horticultural Varieties. This Horticultural Varieties Committee subsequently prepared handbooks on three topics-- lilacs (three editions), crabapples (two editions) and maples.

Lilacs For America was the first survey of the AABGA Horticultural Varieties Committee. Published in 1941 for the Association by the Arthur Hoyt Scott Horticultural Foundation, its purpose was to list the different varieties grown in the United States, describe the relative merit of each variety and to identify nurseries where these lilacs could be bought. Dr. John C. Wister, Director of the Scott Horticultural Foundation served as chairman and editor of the subcommittee which conducted this survey of 640 varieties of lilacs. The handbook was revised once in 1943 and again in 1953.

Crabapples For America was a survey similar to the lilac survey which was compiled by Donald Wyman and first published in 1943. It was revised and republished in the fall of 1955.

The last of the series sponsored by the AABGA Horticultural Varieties Committee was Brian O. Mulligans' *Maples Cultivated In the United States and Canada*. This checklist was published in 1958.

Although not prepared by the Horticultural Varieties Committee, the AABGA later published another checklist. It was entitled *The Lagerstroemia*

Handbook/ Checklist: A Guide to Crapemyrtle Cultivars by Donald R. Egolf and Anne O. Andrick, and was copyrighted in 1978. This handbook was intended to help in the identification and classification of cultivars and as an aid in the cultivation of *Lagerstroemia* cultivars.

Another significant AABGA sponsored publication was Donald Wyman's *The Arboretums and Botanic Gardens of North America*. In 1946, Robert Pyle suggested that the AABGA update the *Directory of Botanic Gardens and Arboretums* which was originally published by his American Association of Nurserymen committee in 1939. The suggestion was made at the AABGA national meeting in St. Louis, and the membership unanimously approved. It was slated as a project for the following year. Dr. Wyman sent out questionnaires for information to be included in an official directory of all the arboreta and botanic gardens in the U.S. and Canada. The questionnaires were checked by the officers of the AABGA for mistakes and omissions.

In compiling this information, an effort was made to show what botanic gardens and arboreta were like at the time, where they were located, the method by which they were established and what they were currently doing. The directory also included information on how to establish a botanic garden or arboretum. In 1948, the AAN granted funds to the AABGA to publish this directory in the hope that it would advance the interests of all botanic gardens and arboretums in North America. This directory was subsequently distributed to both AABGA and AAN members.

Also, there appeared a series of short, single topic papers which was conceived by the AABGA to increase the understanding of the membership in specific areas. Called Technical Information Papers (TIPS), this series was limited to two papers published in 1979. The papers were Francis and Robert Bickelhaupt's *One Couple's Experience in Starting an Arboretum*, and *Approaching Private Granting Agencies* by Leon C. Snyder. These technical papers were designed to be solicited from specialists at no cost to the Association and sold to members for a nominal fee.

In addition to the individual merits of these AABGA publications, the Association has benefited from the increased understanding of the membership. The publications of the Association have lent creditability to the organization's goals and won support for its programs and activities. The growth and prevalence of the AABGA over the forty-plus years of its existence can be in large part accredited to its publications.

III. AWARDS

If the AABGA has acted to further the cause of American horticulture, one of the subtle ways it has done so is through recognizing the achievements of its members. By giving awards, the AABGA has shown that it respects and approves of noteworthy contributions. Recognition can be a powerful motivating force for both individuals and institutions. Also, awards have the effect of being a positive reinforcement for members contributing to the Association's goals. For the all volunteer membership of the AABGA,

awards are also a way of saying 'thank you'.

At the AABGA annual meeting in 1953, one of the subjects discussed was offering an honorary Association membership "to individuals whose services and achievements over a considerable period were recognized as especially outstanding". An alternate suggestion made at this meeting was to recognize deserving individuals on an annual basis with an award or citation. No decision on these awards was reached at this time, but by 1957, the AABGA had awarded its first honorary life membership to the distinguished landscape architect Fredrick Law Olmstead (See Appendix 6, p. 138.) Another landscape architect was awarded an honorary life membership in 1958, but it was not until the next honorary membership in 1963 that an individual was recognized based on service to the Association. Carl W. Fenninger was given this most prestigious recognition because he "contributed immeasurably to the growth of the association." When the AABGA became an independent organization in 1950, Mr. Fenninger was Chairman of the first Membership Committee. Then in 1951, became secretary-treasurer of the Association a position he held for 20 years. (See Appendix 7, p. 142.)

From 1966 to 1975, the AABGA gave thirty individuals and institutions recognition under a variety of award names. While no additional honorary life memberships were presented during this period, other honors bestowed included Distinguished Service, Citations, Awards of Excellence, Certificates of Merit and Recognition, and Contributions to Horticulture, Botany, Plant Sciences, etc.

Also in 1973, the AABGA awarded the first of the Association's Student Travel Awards. This award was designed as a way to recognize students in the plant sciences who have shown a special interest in botany and public horticulture. A grant to cover travel and all AABGA annual meeting expenses has been awarded following the selection of a paper describing an original research project which would benefit public gardens.

Rather than continue to give recognition under a variety of different names, the Association adopted the more uniform Award of Merit in 1976. Based on the recommendation of the Awards Committee, this award was intended to recognize an individual or organization that has made "a special contribution to the development of the objectives of the association." From 1976 to 1981 fifteen Awards of Merit have been given. In later years, the committee deciding awards was asked to look closely at organizations and individuals who have contributed to horticulture in the geographic area where the annual meeting was to be held.

In addition to the Honorary Life Membership and Award of Merit, a special award recognizing outstanding journalism was begun in 1979. In tribute to the editor of the AABGA Bulletin who was also an honorary life member, the award was called the Dorothy E. Hansell Award. There are seven categories for this award open to institutional members of the AABGA: garden periodical, post cards, newsletter, single topic publication, information/map, visitor orientation, press release and technical publication. Awards are based on impact, appearance, production, content and editing. Each year two of the

above categories are selected for possible awards.

In the eyes of those outside the AABGA, the Association's awards reflect favorably not only the individual or institution recognized, but also the organization itself and the membership in general.

IV. *PLANT REGISTRATION AND PLANT COLLECTIONS.*

Botanical gardens have often been pioneers in the introduction of new plants. From a historical perspective, the plants assembled by early botanic gardens were mostly medicinal or economically valuable ones. Although these types of plants are still featured by many gardens, botanic gardens today are often responsible for bringing new ornamental plants into a geographic region. These new ornamental plants could on one hand be new species from another part of the world, or cultivars characteristically distinct within certain genera. In either case, botanic gardens have frequently acted to increase the range of plants available and expand knowledge about them based on their collections of living plants.

A. *PLANT REGISTRATION*

The AABGA has long been concerned about expanding horticultural knowledge. The Standardization Committee of the AABGA begun in 1940 under the direction of Dr. John Wister was chartered to compile lists of recommended horticultural varieties. In 1941, the name of this committee was changed to the Horticultural Varieties Committee and work was underway to

evaluate the merits of different varieties of lilacs. In addition to recommending superior varieties, this committee also felt an obligation "to clean house" of worthless varieties of ornamental plants.

After the Horticultural Varieties Committee published its first two surveys, Dr Wister suggested the committee confine its investigations to woody plants. In studying new introductions in several genera *Philadelphus*, *Viburnum*, *Forsythia* and *Buddleia*, Dr. Wister and his committee soon recognized the confusion in plant variety names and in a 1947 report brought up the questions of whether this committee should address the matter of plant registration. Backing off from this sizable task, the AABGA felt this work was better suited to the fledgling National Arboretum, the American Association of Nurserymen (AAN), or at best a cooperative effort among these institutions and the AABGA. In 1951, two other parallel organizations did address the issue of cultivar names.

The International Botanical Congress and the International Horticultural Congress met in London and drafted a "Proposed International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants". This code was later adopted and set the ground rules for naming cultivars, hybrids, improved strains, etc. The AABGA urged its members to be "especially familiar with its provisions", and several members became involved with the AAN's committee on nomenclature and registration to discuss the registration and testing of new woody plants. Meanwhile, the AABGA Horticultural Varieties Committee worked to compile information on two more woody plant groups, hollies and

maples. When Dr. Wister became President of the AABGA, there was a definite emphasis by the organization in the mid-1950's on compiling information on new horticultural varieties and the related work of registering the names of these horticultural varieties.

Dr. Wister outlined this interest in his paper entitled *The Introduction of New Plants-- What the Members of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboretums Can Do to Help Bring About the Introduction of More New and Valuable Plants for Our Gardens*. This paper was prepared for the AABGA meeting held in conjunction with the National Shade Tree Conference in Santa Barbara in August of 1955.

In the AABGA News Letter in 1956, Dr. Richard Howard of the Arnold Arboretum urged the AABGA to assume "responsibility for future continuity of the service of registration." To help with this work, he outlined the task and offered to engage his arboretum to work in conjunction with the AABGA as a designated registration authority. In this same year, members of the AABGA and the AAN met to discuss the methods of plant registration, testing and introduction. After this meeting a small joint committee was formed. In its report in 1957, this joint committee recommended that the primary task was one of plant registration and this task was so large that only woody plants should be considered. It also recommended that a registration authority and permanent repository of records, herbarium sheets, photos, etc. should be set up.

The AABGA took the lead on this as a public service project in 1957 and submitted a grant proposal for \$12,000 to the Longwood Foundation. The AABGA proposed to sponsor a registry for new woody plants for three years with the American Horticultural Council, The American Association of Nurserymen and the Bailey Hortorium acting as co-sponsors.

No funding was given this project, and the AAN withdrew much of the cooperative support it initially considered. Despite setbacks, a meeting held in Philadelphia in the spring of 1959 yielded some positive results. Representatives from the various organizations were as follows: AAN, Dr. J. Franklin Styer; AABGA, Bernard Harkness, C.W. Fenninger and Dr. J. Wister; American Horticultural Council, Dr. A.J. Irving and Dr. G.H.M. Lawrence; Longwood Gardens, Dr. R.J. Seibert; and Arnold Arboretum, Dr. Donald Wyman. At this meeting it was unanimously voted that the AABGA should take up the overall responsibility of the registration program. Specifically, this meant that the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants would be followed and that the AABGA would find suitable national registration authorities among its members and other suitable institutions to index woody plants not being registered by other organizations. Ilex, Rosa, Camellia and Rhododendron were the exceptions at the time in that they were already being registered. Also at this meeting, it was decided that the Arnold Arboretum was to be the National Registration Center for a trial period of two years starting June 1, 1959. The AABGA approached the American Horticultural Council's Commission on Nomenclature and

Registration and submitted its request to be the National Registration Authority. This was approved and the AABGA subsequently drafted rules for the registration procedure.

Sanctioned by the AABGA, other institutions gradually began active plant registration work and by 1961, there were 12 AABGA members engaged in registering cultivars of 27 genera of ornamental plants.

This work on registering new cultivars continued, and the AABGA committee which had at one time been Plant Registration and Testing, split into two. Dr. Wister, Chairman of the Plant Testing Committee, tried unsuccessfully to establish a viable program. Although thirty AABGA institutions volunteered to conduct plant evaluations, little action was taken by the AAN or its members to cooperate in this program. The intent was for nurserymen to submit new plants for testing, but since they as a group did not, this program was dropped in 1965.

The Arnold Arboretum and a handful of other AABGA members kept plant registration active. Reports were periodically made of plants registered and about registration work in general by Richard Howard, Gordon R. DeWolf, Jr., and later by Stephen A. Spongberg. During the late 1960's and throughout most of the 1970's however, active participation in plant registration faded. Not only were fewer members interested in this work but the AABGA as an organization did little in its role as National Registration Authority to encourage members to participate.

Since the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants was first published in 1953, many botanical and horticultural organizations worldwide have helped to bring order to the naming of plant cultivars. The AABGA served to lay the foundation for this work in the United States by its active involvement. Plant registration began with the start of the organization, and subsequently rose to a peak period of activity from 1957 to 1961. After this dominant period, plant registration continued to fade in favor of other concerns. However, the AABGA has continued to publish descriptive lists of newly registered cultivars.

B. PLANT COLLECTIONS

Documented collections of plants are at the heart of botanic gardens and arboreta. According to a 1980 survey of these institutions, the maintenance of documented collections was ranked as the third highest purpose of public gardens.¹⁴

The founding members of the AABGA also recognized the importance of living plant collections. The AABGA Education Committee in 1941 was composed of C. Stuart Gager of the Brooklyn Botanical Garden, C.E. Godshalk of the Morton Arboretum, Henry T. Skinner of the Morris Arboretum, Henry Teuscher of the Montreal Botanic Garden and Donald Wyman of the Arnold Arboretum. Together they surveyed the AABGA membership to compile lists of genera which were in public garden collections. In a report published in 1942, six genera were indexed listing where 1,479

species and varieties were growing. This committee completed its source list in 1943 with a total of fourteen genera including over 1,700 species and varieties. Although this was quite a task, the survey gave a fairly accurate index to the plants being grown in North American botanical gardens and arboreta at the time.

To help botanical gardens manage their plant collections, the AABGA often published articles to keep the membership informed of current activities. In 1953, an AABGA plant exchange scheme was introduced in the News Letter. This was intended to help member institutions expand their collections through the distribution of surplus plants. The theme of Dr. Wister's 1955 article in the News Letter entitled "What Can the AABGA Or Its Institutional Members Do For Plant Introduction" was expanding plant collections. Dr. Wister also published "The Importance of Public Plant Collections" in the January 1960 issue of the Newsletter.

Plant hardiness, a factor effecting the development and maintenance of plant collections, was also addressed by the AABGA. Beginning in 1962, Dr. Henry Skinner led a committee entrusted to do a survey of plant hardiness. In the July 1964 AABGA Newsletter, results of their findings were published giving the relative degree of hardiness for plants at eighteen locations throughout the country. This study was one of the goals expressed at the very first AABGA meeting in 1940. Although over twenty years later, the AABGA did realize one of the original "suggested programs".

The importance of accurately documenting collections was also taken up by the AABGA. In April of 1966, the Newsletter contained eight articles dealing with plant records at botanic gardens and arboreta. In an attempt to help standardize how plant records are kept, R. Henry Norweb and Richard M. Lewis who were guest editors of this issue of the Newsletter included a "Questionnaire on Plant Records".

The April 1966 issue of the Newsletter also contained an article by Robert M. MacDonald concerning the maintenance of records entitled "Electronic Data Processing of Plant Records". This concept opened an altogether new area of involvement for the AABGA.

After this article was published in the AABGA Newsletter, author MacDonald presented a paper at the XVII International Horticultural Congress meeting at College Park, Maryland entitled "The Application of Electronic Data Processing (EDP) Methods to Botanic Garden and Arboreta Records". Based on this article and paper, the AABGA formed a committee to explore the possibilities of this concept. Through the donations of ten botanic gardens and arboreta totaling \$3,000, a feasibility study was funded. The results of this study were promising.

The AABGA formed a joint committee with the American Horticultural Society (AHS) which was also interested in data processing in October of 1967. Operating with \$3,000, this joint committee set about to secure funds for a comprehensive study in the area of plant records. The

Longwood Foundation, Inc. granted \$90,000 for a pilot study to convert the plant records of Longwood Gardens to an EDP format.

Longwood successfully converted their plant records, then a second grant request was made to the Longwood Foundation. The joint AABGA/AHS committee proposed to establish a national data bank to contain information about living plant collections in North American Botanic Gardens and Arboreta. The committee envisioned manipulating, analyzing and evaluating this plant collection data, and then disseminating information not only to other public gardens, but also to research workers in the biological sciences, the nursery industry and amateur horticulturists. To support these goals the Longwood Foundation funded \$1,800,000 over a ten-year period to the development and operation of a Plant Records Center. Since the AABGA was not a tax exempt 501(C)3 organization, the grant money was given to the AHS to manage this project. This afforded tax advantages for contributions by the Longwood Foundation.

From the outset, one of the charges before this Plant Records Center or Plant Science Data Center (PSDC) as it was later called was to develop a fee schedule for services and related costs in order to eventually operate the Center on a self-sustaining basis. Unfortunately, the contributions which the Center received did not match the true costs of the service. There arose serious AABGA concerns about the continued operation of the PSDC program. The AABGA board appointed a special committee in 1980 composed of Dr. Richard Howard and Mr. Webster Crowley to make specific recommendations.

However, after the tenth and final year of the Longwood Foundation grant, the Center essentially terminated its operation. Although the AABGA repeatedly expressed concerns to the AHS about establishing an active advisory board, the concerns of the users and the future of the PSDC, little was done to be more responsive or manage the project on a cost plus basis. Neither the AABGA or AHS were in a financial position to underwrite the existence of the Center so the two organizations were forced to abandon this project. The advent of small personal computers and their extensive software also meant that each garden could keep its own computerized plant records and did not have to rely on a time share system. In a follow up effort, the AABGA appointed a committee led by Dr. Marion Hall to study the need for continuing a centralized plant records system.

The AABGA revived the idea of a national inventory of plant collections and expanding on this, appointed a Plant Collections Committee. This appointment came on the heels of the 1978 AABGA annual meeting which centered on the various aspects of developing and maintaining plant collections. The purposes of this new committee as stated by Charles Huckins in his 1980 memo to members of the committee were

Objective-#1: To develop a practical means of defining and identifying documented collections of living plants which constitute an important part of the historical and national heritage of this continent.

- Objective-#2: To compile a comprehensive bibliography on published and unpublished literature pertaining to the development, maintenance and support of collections which has particular application to institutions with living collections.
- Objective-#3: To develop a basic format for encouraging the establishment of minimum standards for the acquisition, documentation, maintenance, exchange and elimination of plants in living collections.

The AABGA has also helped botanic gardens to become better aware of their role in the conservation of endangered species through articles in the Newsletter and Bulletin and the work of the AABGA Conservation Committee.

V. *LAS CRUCES*

As an organization that represents the interests of all botanical gardens and arboreta, the AABGA in 1976 saw appropriate to undertake the responsibility for the interim support of a particular botanic garden--Las Cruces Tropical Botanic Garden. Started as a private garden by Robert and Catherine Wilson, Finca Las Cruces in San Vito de Java, Costa Rica developed into a significant botanic garden with over 6,000 taxa.

From 1963 to 1973 it operated with support from donor and friend, Stanley Smith. Following Mr. Smith's death, an application was made to the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust (SSHT), for an operating grant, but due to the terms of the trust, it was impossible for the garden to receive funds while privately owned. In 1973, ownership of the garden was therefore transferred to

the Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS) with lifetime rights for the Wilsons. With this transfer, a supporting grant was issued to the garden by the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust through OTS. The terms of this grant called for matching funds, and the National Science Foundation (NSF) underwrote the gardens for a three-year period. However, when the grant came up for renewal, the NSF did not include Las Cruces in its funding program. Since the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust required matching funds, an emergency situation was created in that none of this operating grant was available to the garden.

AABGA was notified of this crisis and following a lengthy discussion, a committee was structured to determine what position AABGA should take. This committee developed a proposal whereby a small management committee under the direction of Dr. Mildred Mathias would submit a grant proposal for Las Cruces to the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust and seek additional funds to match the SSHT grant. The AABGA treasurer maintained a separate account for Las Cruces and received donations for matching funds. Following generous donations by Mrs. Catherine Sweeney and others, the Las Cruces Committee was able to approve the garden's budget and dispense operating funds.

Over a three-year period, AABGA continued as the fiscal agent for Las Cruces. Notes about the garden were published in the AABGA Bulletin and the AABGA helped to form a auxiliary support group for the garden. The grant to the AABGA from SSHT was completed October 1, 1979. Following

the three year period of AABGA's involvement, negotiations were begun with the Costa Rican Ministry of Agriculture to take over the support of the garden. The AABGA and its ad hoc Committee on Support and Management of Las Cruces Botanical Garden helped to assure the continued operation of this garden by guiding it through a difficult financial period.

VI. *NORTH AMERICAN DIPLOMA IN HORTICULTURE*

Botanic gardens and arboreta have long recognized the need to find qualified individuals to cultivate the valuable plants in their collections. Likewise many individuals with training and experience have had no gauge of their horticultural knowledge. They often have lacked formal recognition of their competency. Although there are several horticultural schools throughout the country, a unified standard to measure the technical skills of professional gardeners and horticulturists has been non-existent. To serve its member institutions, upcoming professionals, and the horticultural community at large, the AABGA undertook a program to certify horticultural skills--the North American Diploma in Horticulture (NADH).

The impetus to launch this program came from an allied organization, the American Horticultural Society. In an April 1973 article in the AABGA Bulletin, F.L. Steve O'Rourke, Chairman of the AHS Horticultural Certification Committee solicited the help of the AABGA referring to the interest in training programs that the AABGA had shown in the past and to the "ideal centers" for testing candidates. Mr. O'Rourke suggested that the

two organizations work in close cooperation to initiate a certification program.

At the start, this idea was welcomed for its merits, but not adopted as a direction for the AABGA.

The possibility of the AABGA undertaking a certification and/or accreditation program was discussed at length, but although the consensus was that such a program would be of definite value, it was felt that the lack of funds and a central office and staff limited the feasibility of such a program.¹⁵

Notwithstanding, the American Horticultural Society continued to pursue this concept and in 1974, presented their proposal for an American Diploma in Horticulture to the AABGA for review. Members of the AABGA found the program severely lacking. AABGA felt there needed to be more of a distinction between amateur and professional candidates, basic prerequisites for qualification, and a more thorough testing of the range of horticultural knowledge. The AABGA Board of Directors even went to the extent of publishing an official resolution suggesting the diploma not be named the American Diploma in Horticulture, but the American Horticultural Society Diploma in Horticulture.

This official lack of endorsement led the President of the AHS, Dr. Henry M. Cathey to sublimate the AHS program to an AABGA concept which involved a multi-stepped certification. Dr. Cathey suggested that the AHS Certificate in Gardening be used as the "first step toward the completion of a four step program within the AABGA Diploma of Horticulture".

AABGA President Roy Taylor appointed Francis Ching as Chairman of the AABGA committee to investigate and recommend the format for an AABGA endorsed certification program. Funding for this endeavor was also investigated and the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust later assisted with a grant to help support the program. The AABGA initially prepared a three step program independent of the AHS program. After three years of rough drafts and much collaboration, the AABGA and AHS appeared at a stalemate in reaching a satisfactory compromise regarding a joint AHS-AABGA certification program. At the annual AABGA meeting in Kansas City in 1976, AHS representatives Dr. Cathey and Dr. Gilbert Daniels met with AABGA President Taylor and Chairman Ching to discuss the questionable future of this joint program. It evidently was decided to let the AABGA carry the responsibility for the advanced three steps in a four-phase certification program.

In March of 1977, the AABGA launched the first examination for the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta North American Certificate in Gardening. The four-hour written and eight-hour practical examinations were held at the National Arboretum.

The Intermediate Diploma in Horticulture and the North American Diploma in Horticulture comprise the last two levels of proficiency in the certification program. However, up to 1981 the North American Certificate in Gardening has been the only level of the program to be operational.

Benefiting from the initiative of the AABGA, North America has gained a horticultural testing program equivalent to existing certification programs in England, Scotland and New Zealand. Although further work is needed, the establishment of standards to measure horticultural skills has proved to be an important contribution to the field of horticulture.

VII. *ACCREDITATION*

The question of professional standards for individual horticulturists has been addressed by AABGA's innovative program, the North American Diploma in Horticulture. Likewise, the AABGA has explored the need for standards among botanic gardens and arboreta. To improve the administration and performance of public gardens, the AABGA began a program of accreditation in conjunction with the American Association of Museums (AAM).

The stimulus for the AABGA Accreditation Program came from the federal government's Institute of Museum Services (IMS) and its governing agent, the National Museum Services Board. Under this board's direction, the IMS resolved in 1978 to financially support the procedures for accreditation for museums and related institutions. Many museum and AABGA professionals construed this action as a forerunner to the federal government requiring an accredited status before funding a particular institution. Since major botanic gardens and arboreta had begun to receive General Operating Support and Special Project Grants from the IMS, the AABGA was quick to act.

At the annual meeting in the summer of 1979, the AABGA Board of Directors met with a representative group of botanic garden and arboreta directors to discuss the need for accreditation, the advantages of joining an existing AAM program, and the possibilities of an independent AABGA accreditation program. Following this meeting, AABGA President, Dr. Richard Lighty appointed an ad hoc Accreditation Committee with Mr. R. Henry Norweb, Jr. of the Holden Arboretum as Chairman. The committee was to develop an accreditation program in cooperation with the AAM. To inform public gardens of this committee's approach, a proposal was made to the Institute of Museum Services to underwrite the presentation of several meetings and two symposia (one east coast, one west coast) on accreditation. Dr. Mildred E. Mathias who had recently been appointed Executive Director of the AABGA was named Project Director of this IMS proposal. The proposal was based on the need to guide public gardens in evaluating their public programs with respect to other museum-type institutions. The IMS awarded a \$9,000 special grant for two symposia and both were held in November, 1979. The Accreditation Committee also met with the AABGA Executive Committee in November and the following January Chairman Norweb presented his committee's report to the entire AABGA Board. The report which recommended AABGA join the AAM Accreditation Program was accepted. Norweb's committee had developed a supplementary instruction sheet which was to become part of the AAM packet sent to all botanic gardens and arboreta requesting accreditation information. This supplemental sheet modified the AAM system to account for the special needs of living plant

collections and the programs based on these collections.

Since the AAM had been operating its Accreditation Program since 1968, this affiliation saved the AABGA untold development and administration time and expense. Following Dr. Lighty, AABGA President Francis Ching saw the value of this program and reappointed Mr. Norweb Chairman of the Accreditation Committee to ensure continued work with the AAM.

In its highlight statement, the IMS was chartered to award grants to improve the preservation of the nation's science, historical and cultural heritage; assist in the expansion of educational programs, and help ease the financial burden due to increased use of public facilities. The IMS has supported museum activities and since its inception, has provided one year General Operating Support and Special Project Grants.

Through the efforts of the AABGA, the IMS became more aware that botanic gardens and arboreta fulfill the public service role as do museums and similar institutions. Also, the AABGA became active in Washington and was represented in appropriation hearings of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

The value of this AABGA endeavor has been justified in that during the period from 1978 to March 1981, twenty- four member institutions have been recipients of forty IMS grants totaling over \$950,000. Also, the IMS funded an American Association of Museums program designed to provide technical assistance to help institutions not fully ready for accreditation. In

cooperation with the AABGA, the AAM's Museum Assessment Program (MAP) provided for paid consultants to prepare institutions for accreditation. Through the AABGA, member institutions have thus been offered a chance to gain the technical advice necessary to correct deficiencies in certain areas.

CHAPTER II

FOOTNOTES

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CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta has undergone tremendous growth, both in membership and programs since its first meeting in Cleveland, Ohio in 1940. The Association today is continental in character, with members representing all regions of the United States and Canada. The programs which have been developed over the life of the Association embrace the issues which are relevant to the widespread membership and to public gardens in general.

To understand the Association, it is important to look at the framework which supports the programs and activities of its members. Like a house which sustains the activities of its occupants, the structure of the AABGA is the support system for its members.

I. THE ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK OF THE AABGA

There are approaches to organizational analysis which have been described by David Dunkerly in his book on organizations. They are: 1) the role of the organization, 2) the structural properties of an organization, and 3) the organizational characteristics.¹ Analysis of these factors can be a useful tool in understanding an organization such as the AABGA.

A. *THE ROLE OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
BOTANICAL GARDENS AND ARBORETA:*

Throughout its history the AABGA has served to broaden and strengthen the position of public horticulture in North America. Four distinct roles have encouraged this:

1. *ASSEMBLY*

The Association has provided a forum for leaders in public horticulture. The opportunity is available for members to meet and discuss ideas and common problems. Annual and regional meetings, as well as informal gatherings of the membership, have promoted discussion of matters of interest such as techniques for labeling plants or interpreting collections. In this way, the Association has encouraged and facilitated cooperation among public gardens and the exchange of ideas between staff members.

2. *LEADERSHIP*

The AABGA has been an organization of professionals. Public garden administrators and educators have pioneered the goals of the organization through their voluntary service. Very often it has been the men and women who are leaders in their field who have assumed leadership positions in the Association. By their example, they have served to act as role models for a progression of upcoming junior administrators. This legacy of leadership has benefited both the AABGA and its member institutions.

3. *SUPPORT AND SERVICES*

The AABGA must be conscious of the needs of its members. As the AABGA has grown, the membership first was composed of individuals and later of institutions. It has been the aim of the Association to represent this membership and their kindred interests. To achieve this, the AABGA has established a broad range of programs and services. Indeed, it has probably been the perceived benefits of these programs and services which have encouraged membership in the AABGA.

In discussing voluntary organizations, Newel Comish talks about the need for an organization to look after the welfare of its members. He outlines the following four internally oriented benefits that an organization can provide for its membership: 1) fellowship, 2) personal enjoyment and development, 3) prestige or status, and 4) contacts with other professionals.² Hence, an important function of the AABGA is to meet the psychological as well as the practical nuts and bolts needs of its members.

4. *SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY*

In addition to serving the membership, an organization such as the AABGA must also be aware of the general public which it serves. There are certain responsibilities that go beyond the membership to benefit society at large. An awareness of this role can be seen in the AABGA's statement of purpose.

The purposes of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, Inc. are to promote and encourage research and education as they relate to botanical gardens and arboreta, especially those aspects that affect the preservation and enhancement of the environment for the benefit of man.³

An indication of this attitude has been the numerous AABGA programs and services which have resulted in benefits to the public. Examples include educational programs, the North American Diploma in Horticulture, and the plant registration duties of the organization.

Representing individual botanic gardens and arboreta the AABGA has been concerned with contributing to the public's understanding of plants and horticulture. This has been an important goal of those active in the AABGA. In Dr. John C. Wister's article about the founding of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, he writes:

It seems to me that one of Dr. Gager's most important undertakings was his work in connection with the organization of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta. This association, by building more effective cooperation between existing botanic gardens and encouraging the establishment of new ones in cities and town which do not now have them, may carry out on a national scale Dr. Gager's belief in the importance of interesting the public in botanical science is to continue to progress.⁴

Thus creating public awareness for the issues which have been relevant to public gardens was early recognized as an important responsibility of the organization.

AABGA members have been responsible for the advancement of the organization not only through their diligent work, but also through the values they have contributed. The roles which have been outlined above can be seen as a reflection of these values. Indeed, the character of the Association has been shaped not only by time and events, but also by the guiding principles of its members.

B. THE STRUCTURE OF THE AABGA:

What the AABGA wished to accomplish for its members and society has been expressed in terms of goals and objectives it defined for itself. However, in order to implement these goals, make policy decisions, and conduct business, the Association has needed an adequately organized structure.

Structure within an organization like the AABGA is both a stratification of the membership to fulfill certain tasks like planning the annual meeting and a hierarchy of rank. The organization, when divided into different components, like committees and offices can better serve its members and reach its goals.

During the first business meeting in 1940, the basic structure of the organization was established, resembling the traditional line and staff pattern, it consisted of a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer, two directors, six committees, and the general membership, (see Figure III-1.)

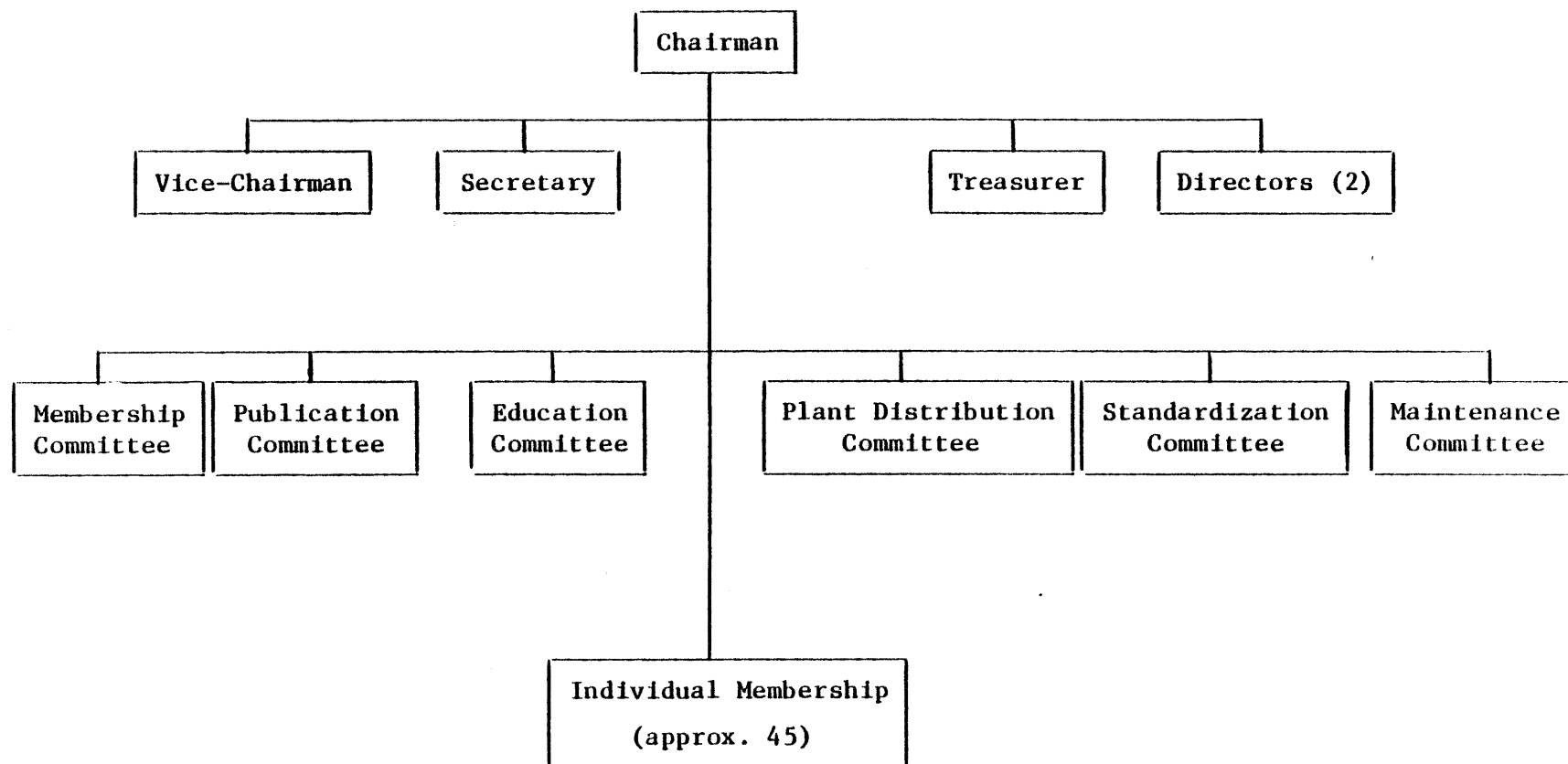


Figure III-1. Organizational Structure of AABGA in 1940

In 1950, when the AABGA was no longer an affiliate chapter of the American Institute of Park Executives, the titles of the lead officers were changed to president and vice president, and the number of directors increased by one, but the underlying structural pattern continued (see Figure III-2.)

The number of committees and their function has fluctuated over the life of the organization. There have been both standing committees like the Education Committee, and ad hoc committees such as the Future Directions Committee. Some committees lasted only briefly and others have continued with varied goals since the organization was founded (See Chapter II.) In either case, committees have represented the major structural group within the AABGA.

A part-time executive director's position was added in 1977, and extended to full-time in 1981. The position greatly aided the president and officers in accomplishing the goals of the Association by providing much needed administrative assistance (see Figure III-3.) Prior to this, the AABGA relied completely on busy professionals who volunteered their time.

Before 1973, the organization was a diffuse association covering all the United States and Canada. Although annual meetings were held in different locations throughout the country, many members were often unable to attend because of the travel involved. As a service to these members and to increase participation by members throughout North America including various staff levels, a regional network was established. However, the sole function of the

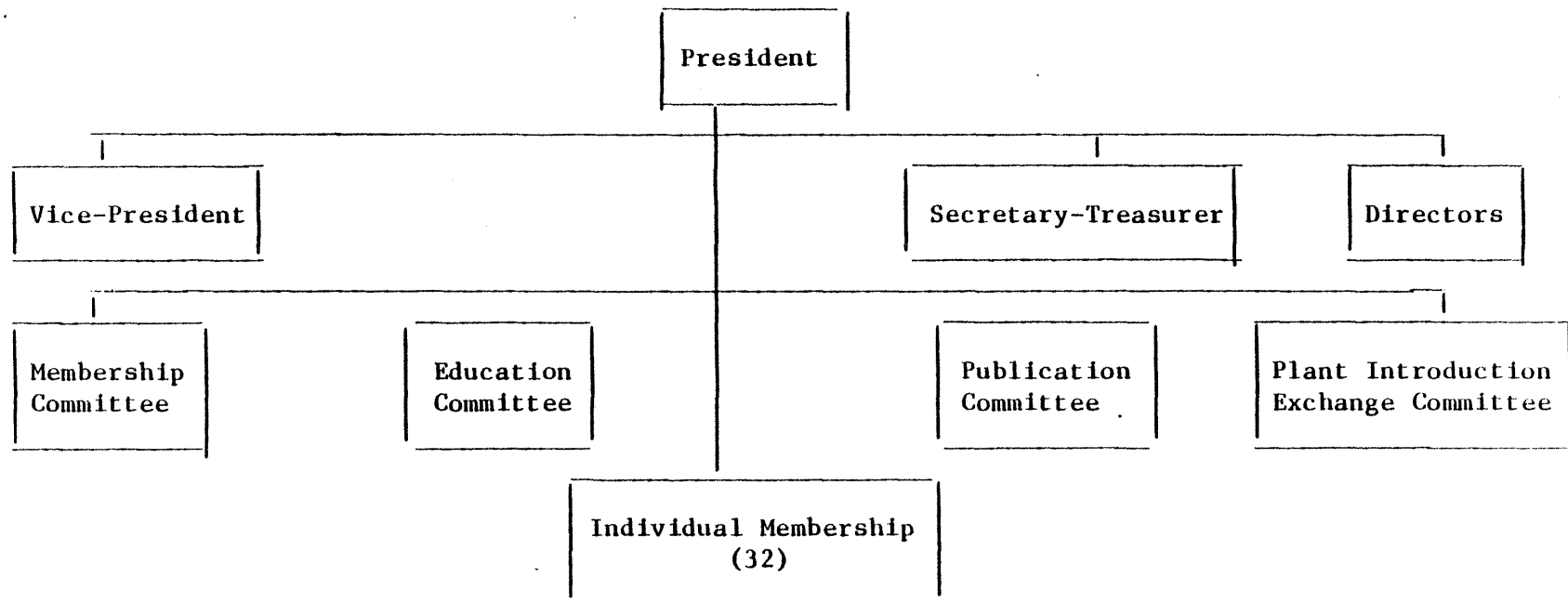


Figure III-2. Organizational Structure of AABCA in 1950.

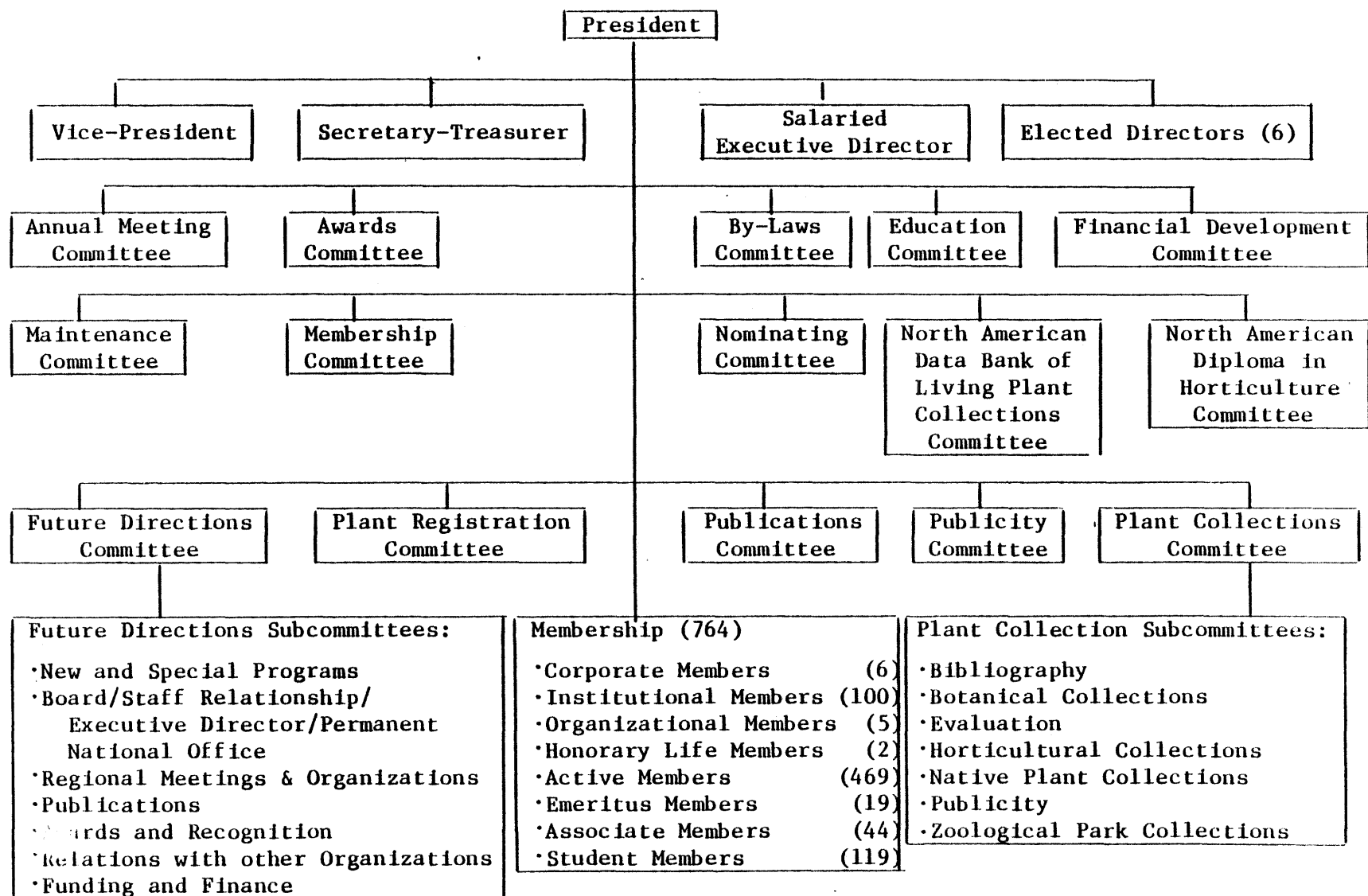


Figure III-3. Organizational Structure of AABGA in 1981

regional organization has been to hold somewhat regular meetings (See Chapter II.) No positions were added to the AABGA national structure to accommodate the regional network.

The overall structure of the AABGA, when seen as a dynamic support process rather than a fixed structural hierarchy, has tended to become more formalized and efficient over time. Dr. Richard Lighty, past President of the AABGA, has observed the following:

Initially the small membership was loosely organized. The annual meeting, which provided the only opportunity for the meeting of the Officers and the Board of Directors, was often dominated by social and non-professional activities. The Association was not able to meet its goals due to insufficient funds, infrequent meetings, poor communication and lack of a definitive program of objectives. In recent years the AABGA Board of Directors and Officers have demonstrated a level of commitment which has changed the direction of the Association by establishing it on a more professional base and by initiating and guiding a number of programs to meet the needs of members, and ultimately, the public.⁵

Although a tight organizational structure may be beneficial to quickly achieve the goals of the organization, the structure of the AABGA still must be flexible enough to change in response to the membership and new programs. Indeed, such changes have occurred in the past and are still proposed and openly discussed within the organization.

C. ORGANIZATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Another level of organizational analysis involves looking at the special characteristics of the AABGA. What makes this Association unique in the world of organizations? Certainly one of the main features of this organization is its membership.

Started as an association of professionals involved with botanic gardens and arboreta, the AABGA represented and continues to represent a distinct branch of horticulture. The American Horticultural Congress and the American Horticultural Society came closest to representing the same group of professionals. However, these organizations merged and emphasis shifted to attract more amateurs into their membership. This left AABGA alone to fill a special niche.

Many other horticultural organizations existed at the time AABGA was started. There was the American Association of Nurserymen, the American Shade Tree Conference, the American Institute of Park Executives, and various plant related societies and organizations, but the professionals in public gardens saw the need for another which would specifically represent their interests.

When the AABGA was first formed, membership was limited to individuals. Institutional membership was initiated in 1963, and by 1981

several classes of membership were delineated to broaden the member base (See Figure III-3.) From 1950 to 1981, the size of the membership increased over twenty fold, from 32 to 732 members, and the complexity of the organizational structure likewise increased. As the membership grew, most of the founding members remained active and continued to support the organization for many years.

The background of the members has been fairly homogeneous. Throughout the Association's history, membership has been clearly defined within narrow limits. Hence, even though members are scattered across North America, the occupational problems encountered by the membership have been very similar. For example, the task of accessioning plants into a collection or orienting visitors in a botanic garden has faced the small rural garden just as it has the large urban gardens. This commonality of interests has given the AABGA a high degree of social cohesion. Members are easily allied because of their mutual interest in relating plants to people.

Annual meetings are another example of the social cohesion among members. These meetings take place for the transaction of business and the education of members, but the value of social contacts should not be overlooked. Opportunities provided by the Association for informal meetings and discussions by members have been a key element in the effectiveness of the organization.

This idea of social cohesion could be contested by individual members who have seen controversy arise within the AABGA. Indeed, good fellowship and cooperation are not guaranteed to any association. In their book, "A Sociology of Organizations", J. Eldridge and A. Crombie include this notion of conflict within organizations.

Although planning and conscious pursuit of aims are especially written into the notion of organization as against other social groups and categories, we see here that associations *share* with other groupings conflict as part of their social life. This in itself provides some precaution against an over-smooth view of the organization as an orderly goal-seeking entity.⁶

The AABGA has undergone a distinct transformation from a predominately social organization to an organization which has a recognized public service role. Social interaction is still evident and beneficial to the membership, but the acknowledged emphasis of the AABGA has shifted to more externally oriented goals. This can be seen in the objectives of the Association which have been discussed earlier and the purposes of the organization as stated in its by-laws (See Appendix 4, p. 129). This process of transformation from internally to externally directed motives can be seen throughout the history of the different eras and programs of the AABGA.

Dr. John Wister, one of the Association's most influential members, stated to the general membership upon retiring from the Presidency in 1955 the following:

I have been convinced through the years, ever since the first meeting of the AABGA in Cleveland, that our Association can do an immense work for American Horticulture. We have been slow getting started to do it, because we are small and scattered, and do not have great financial resources, but I think surely, even though slowly, the effect of our work is becoming known.⁷

Men and women like Dr. Wister who have seen the Association capable of "immense work" for the common good have been the guiding lights for the organization. From this leadership, an Association has emerged which has in turn accepted the responsibility to guide botanic gardens and arboreta, and to help them in their mission to serve the public. The traditional role of botanic gardens as a repository for plant collections remains. However, over the history of AABGA, and in large part because of the influence of this Association, there has been an awakening of the public service role of botanic gardens.

The AABGA has faithfully served its membership as well as society at large but how do we measure its success in bringing institutions, personalities and ideas together? Perhaps that success can best be judged by looking at the expressions of the people you see in a public garden.

CHAPTER III

FOOTNOTES

1. Dunkerly, David, *The Study of Organizations*. Routledge and Kegan Paul, London, 1972.
2. Comish, Newel, *Effective Leadership of Voluntary Organizations*. Anna Publishing Inc. Winter Park, Florida, 1976, p.8.
3. "By-laws of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, Inc." 1981-82 Membership Directory, American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, Inc. Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, 1981, p.31.
4. Wister, John C., "Dr. Stuart Gager: The Garden's Founding Director", Brooklyn Botanical Garden Records, Vol: 33, No. 2, April, 1944.
5. Lighty, Richard W., "A Proposal to the Longwood Foundation", submitted by the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, Richard W. Lighty, Vice President, December 12, 1977.
6. Eldridge, J.E.T. and Crombie, A.D., *A Sociology of Organizations*. George Allen and Unwin Ltd., London, 1974.
7. Wister, John C., Unpublished letter to AABGA membership, November 5, 1955.

APPENDIX 1

Letter from American Institute of Park Executives' Arboretums
and Botanic Garden Committee

ARBORETUMS AND BOTANIC GARDENS COMMITTEE
of the
American Institute of Park Executives

August 12, 1940

To the Director:

Dear Sir:

There has been a movement on foot for an organization of botanic gardens and arboretums, and it is hoped that such an organization can be formed as an adjunct to the American Institute of Park Executives. This organization of some 350 members, representing park systems in practically every state in the United States, has associated with it, the American Park Society and the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums. At the last annual meeting of the Institute, a committee was appointed, made up of men who were staff members of various botanic gardens, to draw up plans for a meeting of botanic garden and arboretum representatives in Cleveland, as a part of the annual meetings of the Institute. In such a meeting it could be determined whether there was sufficient interest among the botanic gardens and arboretums to form an organization, and if there were, steps could be taken to organize at that time.

As a result, a meeting is being arranged in Cleveland, September 25, 1940. This is practically an all-day affair, open to the many members of the Institute interested in Horticulture, but more particularly planned for executives in botanic gardens and arboretums who would want to gather together to discuss mutual problems. A program of this meeting is enclosed. This is only a part of the four-day meetings of the American Institute of Park Executives (Sept. 24-27) which includes many interesting meetings and many profitable side trips to places of horticultural interest in the vicinity of Cleveland.

There are many important reasons why it would seem advisable for members of botanic gardens and arboretums to form a cooperative organization and to meet annually for the discussion of mutual problems, and perhaps action.

Plant Hardiness---For example, the question concerning the hardiness of ornamental plants is most baffling. Horticultural periodicals publish stories concerning the individual hardiness of certain plants from time to time, but no concentrated effort is being made by any institution or organization in this country to obtain a general picture of the

hardiness of ornamental plants. The hardiness of many new plants is as yet unknown, affording a problem in which every horticulturist is vitally interested.

Sources for Rare Plants:---Most botanic gardens are not only interested in growing rare materials but are also essentially interested in their distribution to the gardening public. Efforts made in compiling sources of rare materials from nursery catalogues fail, simply because such compilations are frequently out of date as soon as new nursery catalogues appear. If some cooperative effort were made to accumulate notes concerning the permanent sources where rare plants were being grown in this country, American Horticulture would be aided immensely.

Seed of Rare Plants:---With wars throughout the world, the introduction of new plants into this country is on a somewhat precarious basis. During the next few years, growing collections may best be enlarged from plants already in this country. A list of seed sources of rare plants growing in America would be of material help, not necessarily for public distribution but to be circulated among the botanic gardens and arboretums alone. If each institution offered what rare seed it had, a worth-while composite seed list might result.

Distribution:---Some basis could be found for the distribution of cuttings, scions, and surplus plants among the botanic gardens. The friendly basis on which this is done now may be satisfactory, but if a cooperative list were sent to botanic gardens and arboretums annually, new material might get around considerably faster than it does now.

Publication:---Discussions of many kinds pertinent to botanic gardens and arboretums could be aired in some periodical, and "Parks and Recreation", the official publication of the American Institute of Park Executives, might be used if an organization were formed in association with the Institute.

Discussion:---Matters concerning the source and propagation of rare plants, design, labelling difficulties, publicity, public education all need discussion and many would profit by such annual discussions at the annual meetings.

Cooperation:---Small botanic gardens and arboretums can do work of immense value if they specialize in some definite field in which they may become unique. If those who are in charge can be brought together in earnest cooperation, they can divide the work among themselves and much useless duplication of effort can be avoided.

Aid to the Public:---The American public is becoming increasingly plant conscious, especially because of the garden club movement. Many of the garden clubs are tackling projects which should be done by the botanic gardens and arboretums. The Garden Club of America, for instance, has one project in which its horticultural committee selects a certain number of rare plants each year to be propagated by some outstanding nurseryman and distributed by the committee. Because of this increasing knowledge of plants and interest in growing them the botanic gardens of the country should find ways and means of cooperating and coordinating their efforts in order to keep pace with an increasingly discriminate horticultural public.

If an organization of botanic gardens and arboretums were formed, it would be possible to affiliate with the American Institute of Park Executives in the same manner as the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums. Membership dues of \$10 annually would entitle one to membership in both the Institute and the Association of Botanic Gardens and Arboretums, Annual dues of \$5. would entitle one to membership in the latter group and in the American Park Society. Both classes of members could attend all meetings and receive "Parks and Recreation" monthly. The only difference would be that the \$5 membership would not entitle one to hold office or to vote in the affairs of the Institute. These suggestions concerning dues are, of course, not definite but are suggestive of what might be asked.

At this early stage it is impossible to suggest further means of organization--that is the reason for the meeting in Cleveland. Suffice it to say that there certainly is a need for some organization among the botanic gardens and arboretums of the country, and the American Institute of Park Executives--which has ideals and problems similar to ours--is offering means by which we can organize.

Would you fill in the enclosed card and return it, indicating your readiness to cooperate in this matter and whether it will be possible for you or a representative to attend the Cleveland meeting for further discussion--and probably organization if desired?

Very truly yours,

Frederick Leissler, Seattle, Washington
Robert Pyle, West Grove, Pennsylvania
L.P. Jensen, Gray Summit, Missouri
Henry Teuscher, Montreal, Canada
Donald Wyman, Jamaica Plain, Mass., Chairman.

Enclosures

APPENDIX 2

American Institute of Park Executives Meeting Agenda,

September 25, 1940

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PARK EXECUTIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 1940

Arboretums and Botanic Gardens

8:00 a.m. BREAKFAST CONFERENCE, Donald Wyman, Chairman

At 8:30 a.m. impromptu talks of a few minutes each on the following subjects:

1. Plant hardiness and need for national cooperation to study it
2. Data on the growth of the Arboretum idea
3. Necessity for some method of locating sources of rare plants
4. Botanic gardens that specialize might be assisted by the cooperation of others:--

Arnold Arboretum - lilacs

Huntington Botanical Gardens - cactus and succulents

Missouri Botanical Garden - water lilies

Montreal Botanical Garden - economic gardens

Morton Arboretum - hedges

New York Botanical Garden - rock plants

Ohio State University Botanic Garden - the state college experimental plots

Swarthmore College - Japanese tree peonies, daffodils, etc.

University of Washington Arboretum - azaleas and rhododendrons

5. Information on "Standardized Plant Names"
6. Seed distribution of rare plants
7. Surplus stock and methods of properly placing it

9:15 - 9:45 a.m. DR. E. D. MERRILL, Director, Arnold Arboretum

- "Ways in Which the Arnold Arboretum Has Aided Horticulture:"

9:45 - 10:15 a.m. DR. STUART GAGER, Director, Brooklyn Botanic Garden

"Popular and Scientific Horticulture in a Botanic Garden"
(illustrated with moving pictures)

10:15 - 11:00 a.m. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AND DISCUSSIONS

(LABEL DISPLAY, showing the many different kinds of plant labels now in use, can be inspected at any time during the day.)

11:00 a.m. REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PARK
EXECUTIVES

1:15 p.m. TRIP TO THE HOLDEN ARBORETUM

Under the auspices of the Board of Directors and
Mr. Gordon Cooper, Landscape Architect.

APPENDIX 3

AABGA By-Laws Approved 1954

BY-LAWS

approved Oct. 27th, 1954

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF
BOTANICAL GARDENS AND ARBORETUMS

1. NAME

The name of this association shall be the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboretums.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the association shall be to promote the interests of botanical gardens and arboretums and to develop public, municipal and institutional interest in plants, and to issue bulletins, monographs, etc. relative thereto.

3. MEMBERSHIP

(a) Voting membership shall be confined to those who are actively working in or have a direct connection with a botanical garden, arboretum or institution of learning maintaining or conducting horticultural courses.

(b) Associate membership shall be those not having a direct connection with a botanical garden, arboretum or institution of learning maintaining or conducting horticultural courses, but who desire to endorse the work of the Association, attend its meetings, and participate in its activities without the right to vote.

4. DIRECTORS

The governing body of the association shall be a Board of six (6) Directors chosen by the voting members. Upon the adoption of these By-Laws, two Directors shall be elected for term of one year, two for terms of two years, and two for terms of three years, and thereafter two Directors shall be elected for terms of three years. The Directors shall meet not less than once each year at such time and place as they may decide. A majority shall constitute a quorum. The Board shall have power to fill vacancies occurring among the Officers or Directors between annual meetings.

5. OFFICERS

(a) The officers of this association shall be a President, one or more Vice Presidents, a Secretary-Treasurer, and such other officers as may from time to time be elected.

(b) The officers shall be elected at the annual meeting and shall serve for terms of two (2) years.

6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the Officers, the immediate Past President of the Association, and three Directors appointed by the President. This Committee, between meetings of the Board of Directors, shall exercise all the powers of said Board except the filling of vacancies in the Board of Directors. A majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum, and in case of a tie vote the immediate Past President shall decide the question.

7. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Sixty days before the Annual Meeting the President shall, with the approval of the Executive Committee, appoint a Nominating Committee to nominate officers and directors for the ensuing year. Nominations other than those made by the Nominating Committee may be made in writing by the voting members, such nominations to be sent to the Secretary not less than thirty days before the Annual meeting.

8. STANDING AND OTHER COMMITTEES

The President shall annually appoint standing committees of at least three members each, as follows:

- (a) Membership
- (b) Education
- (c) Publications
- (d) Plant introductions and exchange

Each Committee Shall report in writing at the Annual Meeting.

The President may from time to time, with the approval of the Executive Committee, appoint such other committees as may be necessary or advisable.

9. MEETINGS

There shall be an annual meeting of the Association at such time and place as shall be decided at the previous annual meeting or later by the Executive Committee. Special meetings may be

called by the President or by a majority of the Executive Committee at such time and place as may be designated. Any voting member who is unable to attend the annual meeting may send a substitute with full voting powers, providing such substitute is connected with the same institution as the voting member and whose name is certified as such substitute by the member.

If it is impossible to hold an annual meeting, the election of Officers and Directors shall be conducted by mail. In this event the Secretary shall send to all members a ballot which, duly marked, shall be returned to the Nominating Committee. The ballots of the voting members shall decide the election.

10. SECTIONAL CHAPTERS

Members of the Association in good standing in various sections may be constituted as Sectional Chapters for the purpose of holding meetings for mutual interest.

Dues paid to any such Chapter shall not be in lieu of dues to the Association, but shall be in addition thereto. Meetings of such Sectional Chapters shall not be held in conflict with the Annual Meeting of the Association.

11. DUES

The annual dues of the Association shall be \$5.00 per year per member, whether Voting or Associate, and shall be payable in advance in January of each year.

12. OFFICIAL ORGAN

The official organ of the Association shall be a News Letter published not less than quarterly, and/or such other publications as may from time to time be authorized by the Board of Directors or Executive Committee. The President shall appoint an editor or editors for such News Letters as from time to time he may deem advisable. Once each year there shall be published in the News Letter a list of members with their addresses.

13. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these By-Laws may be made at any time provided a copy of the proposed amendment shall have been sent to all members with an appropriate form for voting by mail for or against the proposal not less than 30 days before the meeting. If approved by a majority of the voting members, it shall be considered adopted.

APPENDIX 4

AABGA Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws 1971

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
BOTANICAL GARDENS AND ARBORETA, INC.

We, the undersigned, being more than twenty-one years of age and desiring to organize a corporation pursuant to the District of Columbia Nonprofit Corporation Act, 70 Stat. 265, do hereby certify as follows:

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this corporation shall be American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, Inc.

ARTICLE II DURATION

The duration of this corporation shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE III PURPOSES

This corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes within the meaning of § 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent revenue law and in furtherance of such purposes shall promote the advancement and betterment of arboreta and botanical gardens for the benefit of the general public.

The particular purposes of the corporation shall be:

1. To bring together professions representing botanical gardens and arboreta and educational institutions with kindred interests, for the exchange and development of ideas for the betterment of such institutions and organizations, and for the benefit of discussions and contacts with interested nurserymen, plantmen, and laymen in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.
2. To facilitate the exchange, and/or distribution, of plant material, seeds, and herbarium specimens.
3. To encourage revision and monographic studies of important genera of cultivated ornamental plants resulting in authentic checklists, catalogs, and/or other publications, and to foster the publication of such for use by professionals, amateurs, and the trade.
4. To foster the continuing study of ornamental plants and to seek improved races for ornamental planting.
5. To initiate such other studies as may properly be instituted.
6. To do such other and further things as may be necessary or incidental to the foregoing.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERS

This corporation shall issue no stock. The Members of the corporation shall consist of three classes, the qualification and rights of which are as follows:

1. REGULAR MEMBERS. Persons or organizations who are actively working in or have a direct connection with a botanical garden, arboretum or institution of learning which maintains or conducts plant sciences courses. Each Regular Member shall have one vote.
2. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS. Persons or organizations who do not meet the requirements of a Regular Member but who desire to endorse the work of the corporation, attend its meetings and participate in its activities without the right to vote.
3. HONORARY MEMBERS. Those individuals who, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, have made material contributions to the advancement of horticulture through research, field practice, invention, publication or otherwise. An Honorary Member shall have no vote unless he shall also be a Regular Member.

Membership shall commence upon acceptance of a Member in accordance with the By-Laws of the corporation.

ARTICLE V DIRECTORS

The affairs of the corporation shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of not less than three, nor more than nine, Directors. The Directors shall be elected in the manner prescribed in the By-Laws of the corporation, but the minimum and maximum number of Directors specified herein shall not be altered except by amendment to these Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE VI INITIAL DIRECTORS

The six individuals whose names and addresses appear below shall serve as the

initial Directors until their successors shall be elected in the manner prescribed in the corporation's By-Laws:

NAME	ADDRESS
Fred W. Freeman	Director Hidden Lake Gardens Michigan State University Tipton, Michigan
Everett L. Miller	Assistant Director Longwood Gardens Kennett Square, Pennsylvania
John Voight	Director Alfred L. Boerner Botanical Garden 5879 S. 92nd Street Hales Corners, Wisconsin 53130
Walter Eickhorst	Assistant Director Morton Arboretum Lisle, Illinois 60532
C. Gordon Tyrell	Winterthur Winterthur, Delaware
Sylvester G. March	National Arboretum Washington, D. C. 20002

ARTICLE VII NOT-FOR-PROFIT CHARACTER

This corporation is not organized and shall not be operated for pecuniary gain or profit. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its Members, Directors, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III hereof. Upon dissolution of the corporation, all of its net assets, if any, shall be distributed exclusively for charitable, scientific, or educational purposes to one or more organizations which qualify for exemption from Federal income tax under the provisions of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or any similar or corresponding law then in effect.

ARTICLE VIII PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

This corporation shall not engage in any activities which would disqualify the corporation for Federal income tax exemption under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 and the Regulations thereunder, as from time to time amended or superseded. Specifically, but without limiting the foregoing, no substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation; nor shall this corporation directly or indirectly participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office; nor shall this corporation engage in any "prohibited transaction" as defined in Section 503(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as from time to time amended or superseded.

ARTICLE IX REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The corporation's initial registered office shall be located at the U.S. National Arboretum, Washington, D.C. 20002, and its initial registered agent at such address shall be Roland M. Jefferson.

ARTICLE X INCORPORATIONS

The names and respective address of the incorporators are:

NAME	ADDRESS
Ray Brush	923 Croton Drive Alexandria, Virginia 22308
Roland M. Jefferson	4316 12th Street, N. E. Washington, D. C. 20017
Erik A. Neumann	Tiber Island Apt. S.305 429 N Street, S. W. Washington, D. C. 20024

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands this 4th day of February, 1971.

ROLAND M. JEFFERSON
ERIK A. NEUMANN
RAY BRUSH

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA) ss.

I, Norma R. DeLacy, a Notary Public in and for the District of Columbia, do hereby certify that on the 4th day of February, 1971, personally appeared before me Roland M. Jefferson, Erik A. Neumann and Ray Brush, who, being by me first duly sworn, declared that they signed the foregoing document as incorporators, and that the statements therein contained are true.

Given under my hand and seal this 4th day of February, 1971.

Norma R. DeLacy
Notary Public

(SEAL)

My commission expires August 1, 1975.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF BOTANICAL GARDENS AND ARBORETA, INC. BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I PURPOSES

The American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the "Corporation") is organized and shall be operated exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent revenue law and in furtherance of such purposes shall promote the advancement and betterment of arboreta and botanical gardens for the benefit of the general public.

The particular purposes of the Corporation shall be:

1. To bring together professions representing botanical gardens and arboreta and educational institutions with kindred interests, for the exchange and development of ideas for the betterment of such institutions and organizations, and for the benefit of discussions and contacts with interested nurserymen, plantmen, and laymen in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.
2. To facilitate the exchange, and/or distribution, of plant material, seeds, and herbarium specimens.
3. To encourage revision and monographic studies of important genera of cultivated ornamental plants resulting in authentic checklists, catalogs, and/or other publications, and to foster the publication of such for use by professionals, amateurs, and the trade.
4. To foster the continuing study of ornamental plants and to seek improved races for ornamental planting.
5. To initiate such other studies as may properly be instituted.
6. To do such other and further things as may be necessary or incidental to the foregoing; provided, however, the Corporation shall engage in no activity which would disqualify it from being an organization as described in Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent revenue law, and no part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual, and no substantial part of the activity of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and it shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements) of any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY. Any person, corporation, partnership, or unincorporated association in sympathy with the objects and purposes of the Corporation shall be eligible for membership in accordance with the By-Laws and the rules and regulations from time to time in effect. There shall be no limit to the number of members.

SECTION 2. CLASSES OF MEMBERS. Members shall be divided into classes as follows:

1. REGULAR MEMBERS. Persons or organizations who are actively working in or have a direct connection with a botanical garden, arboretum, or institution

of learning which is concerned with the plant sciences. Each Regular Member shall have one vote.

2. **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.** Persons or organizations who do not meet the requirements of a Regular Member but desire to support the work of the Corporation, may attend its meetings and participate in its activities without the right to vote.

3. **HONORARY MEMBERS.** Those individuals who, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, have made material contributions to the advancement of the plant sciences through research, field practice, invention, publication, or otherwise. An Honorary Member shall have no vote unless he shall also be a Regular Member.

SECTION 3. ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP. Any person, institution, or organization meeting the qualifications of Sections 1 and 2 of this Article and interested in supporting the purposes of the Corporation may file application for membership herein on such form as the Board of Directors may from time to time prescribe. Membership shall commence upon acceptance of a person or organization as a Member by the Board of Directors or by a committee of officers duly authorized by the Board and the payment of the required dues.

SECTION 4. ANNUAL DUES. The annual dues of Regular and Associate Members of the Corporation shall be set from time to time by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5. DURATION OF MEMBERSHIP. Membership in the Corporation shall continue until terminated by death, failure to pay the annual dues, or as otherwise provided in these By-Laws or any amendment thereof.

SECTION 6. RESIGNATIONS. Any Members may withdraw from the Corporation by giving written notice of resignation to the Secretary-Treasurer or upon such date after the receipt thereof as may be specified in the notice.

SECTION 7. SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION OF MEMBERS. Any Member may be suspended or expelled for cause by a vote of the Board of Directors at any meeting of the Board, provided, however, that written notice of the proposed suspension or expulsion and a copy of the charges preferred against such Member shall have been mailed to such Member at his last known address as shown by the books or records of the Corporation, at least thirty days prior to the date of the meeting of the Board at which such suspension or expulsion shall be considered.

ARTICLE III MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETING. The Annual Meeting of Members of the Corporation for the transaction of such business as may properly come before the meeting shall be held at such time and place as may be decided at the previous Annual Meeting of Members, or at such time and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors in the absence of a decision at the Annual Meeting. The time and place of the first Annual Meeting after the incorporation of the Corporation shall be designated by the Board of Directors. The Annual Meeting may be held within or outside of the city and state in which the principal office of the Corporation is located.

SECTION 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings may be called by the President or by a majority of the Board of Directors at such time and place as may be designated by the President or by a majority of the Board of Directors, as the case may be. Special meetings of the Members may be held within or without the city and state in which the principal office of the Corporation is located.

SECTION 3. NOTICE OF MEETING. Notice of each Annual Meeting and each special meeting shall be given by mailing, not less than thirty days preceding the date of the meeting, a notice thereof in writing to each Member at his last known address as shown in the books or records of the Corporation.

SECTION 4. QUORUM. Twenty Regular Members of the Corporation present in person or represented by proxy shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at an Annual or Special Meeting. If less than a quorum shall be present or represented by proxy at any such meeting, the presiding officer may adjourn the meeting to a later date and notice of such adjourned meeting shall be given in the same manner as notice of the original meeting.

SECTION 5. VOTING. Each Regular Member present in person or by proxy shall be entitled to one vote on each question submitted at an Annual or Special Meeting of the Corporation. All questions at all meetings at which a quorum is present shall be decided by a majority vote. Any Regular Member who is unable to attend an Annual or Special Meeting may send a substitute as his proxy with the full voting powers,

provided such substitute is connected with the same institution as the Regular Member and his name is certified in writing as such substitute by the Regular Member.

SECTION 6. VOTING BY MAIL. The election of officers and Directors shall be conducted by mail. At least thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting the Secretary-Treasurer shall send to all Regular Members a ballot prepared by the Nominating Committee. The ballot, duly marked, shall be returned to the Nominating Committee on or before the return date specified by the Secretary-Treasurer. Ballots of the Regular Members, duly marked and returned, shall decide the election.

ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. GENERAL POWERS. The general control and management of all affairs of the Corporation shall be vested in a Board of Directors elected by the Regular Members.

SECTION 2. NUMBER, METHOD OF ELECTION AND TENURE. The Board of Directors shall consist of six persons. One-third of the Directors shall be elected prior to each Annual Meeting in accordance with procedures set forth in Section 6 of Article III. Any individual residing in the United States, Canada, or Mexico may be elected a Director of the Corporation.

Directors of the Corporation shall be elected for a term of three years and until their successors are elected and take office; provided, however, that one-third of the Directors elected at the first Annual Meeting after the incorporation of the Corporation shall be for a period of one year, one-third for two years, and one-third for three years. There shall be no limit on the number of terms which any individual may serve as a Director.

SECTION 3. VACANCIES. In the event of a vacancy in the Board of Directors by reason of the death, resignation, removal, or disability of a Director before the expiration of his term of office, a majority of the remaining Board of Directors may elect a successor for the balance of such unexpired term.

SECTION 4. REMOVAL. A Director may be removed from office for any cause, on the affirmative vote of at least 75% of the remaining Directors then in office, at a special meeting of the Board of Directors called for the stated purpose of voting on the removal of such Director; however, any Director to be removed shall have the right to attend such special meeting and to present any evidence which he may wish to present at such meeting.

SECTION 5. REGULAR MEETINGS. A regular annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held as soon after the regular annual business meeting of Members as practicable, at such place within or without the city and state in which the principal office of the Corporation is located, and at such time, as may be designated by the President then in office.

SECTION 6. SPECIAL MEETINGS. The President may, and upon the written request of at least one-third of the other Directors shall, call a special meeting of the Board of Directors upon written notice no more than thirty, nor less than fourteen days, in advance at such place, within or without the city and state in which the principal office of the Corporation is located, and at such time as shall be designated by the President in the written notice.

SECTION 7. QUORUM. Except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws or by statute, a majority of the Directors shall constitute a quorum and a majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be authorized to conduct all affairs for and on behalf of the Corporation.

SECTION 8. COMPENSATION. Directors shall not be paid compensation for their services as such, but by resolution of the Board of Directors expenses of attendance, if any, may be allowed for attendance at regular or special meetings of the Board.

SECTION 9. HONORARY DIRECTORS. The Board of Directors may, in its discretion, elect Honorary Directors who will serve for life or for such lesser period as the Board may specify. Honorary Directors may attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and have the privilege of the floor but may not vote.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

SECTION 1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS. The officers of the Corporation shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary-Treasurer, and such other officers as the Board of Directors may from time to time in its discretion deem necessary. Officers of the Corporation shall be elected for a term of two years and until their successors are elected and take office. Election of officers shall be conducted by mail in accordance with procedures set forth in Section 6 of Article III.

SECTION 2. PRESIDENT. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation and shall exercise general powers of supervision and management usually vested in his office. The President shall preside at all Annual and Special Meetings of the Board. The President shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as may from time to time be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3. VICE PRESIDENT. The Vice President shall, in absence of the President, perform the duties of the President and shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4. SECRETARY-TREASURER. The Secretary-Treasurer shall have custody of the Corporation's seal and shall keep the record of all Annual and Special Meetings of the Corporation and meetings of the Board of Directors. The duties of the Secretary-Treasurer shall include the keeping of all accounts and records, the collection of the dues, the payment of all bills, the preparation and filing of annual reports required by laws of the city and state in which the principal office of the Corporation is located, and all payroll tax and income returns, and the preparation of the operating budget and financial statements.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. NOMINATING COMMITTEE. Sixty days before the Annual Meeting the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee to nominate officers and Directors for the ensuing year. Nominations other than those made by the Nominating Committee may be made in writing by voting members, such nomination to be sent to the Secretary not less than forty-five days before the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 2. STANDING COMMITTEES. The President shall annually appoint standing committees of at least three members each, as follows:

- (a) Membership
- (b) Education
- (c) Publications
- (d) Plant Introductions and Exchange

Each Committee shall report in writing at the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 4. OTHER COMMITTEES. The President may from time to time appoint such other committees as may be necessary or advisable.

ARTICLE VII GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. PRINCIPAL OFFICE. The principal office of the Corporation shall be as designated by the Board of Directors in accordance with the Certificate of Incorporation.

SECTION 2. SEAL. The Corporation shall have an official seal in such form as shall be approved by the Board of Directors; however, no seal shall be required to be affixed to any document, unless so required by the law of the state in which the document is being issued.

SECTION 3. FISCAL YEAR. The fiscal year of the Corporation shall end each September 30.

SECTION 4. OFFICIAL ORGAN. The official organ of the Corporation shall be a bulletin published not less than quarterly, and/or such other publications as may from time to time be authorized by the Board of Directors. The President shall appoint an editor or editors for such bulletin as he may deem advisable. Once each year there shall be published in the bulletin or as a separate roster a list of Regular, Associate, Institutional and Honorary Members of the Corporation with their addresses.

SECTION 5. SECTIONAL CHAPTERS. Members of the Corporation in good standing may form Sectional Chapters for the purpose of holding meetings for mutual interest. The formation of such Sectional Chapters shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. Dues paid to any such Chapter shall not be in lieu of dues due the Corporation but shall be in addition thereto. Meetings of such Sectional Chapters shall not be held in conflict with the Annual Meeting of the Corporation.

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENT

These By-Laws may be amended, altered or repealed at any time by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Regular Members cast in person at any Annual Meeting or by mail ballot. A copy of any such proposed amendment, alteration or repeal shall be sent to all Regular Members with an appropriate form for voting by mail for or against the proposal not less than thirty days before the Annual Meeting.

APPENDIX 5

Regional Chapters of the AABGA by State

REGIONAL CHAPTERS OF THE AABGA BY STATE

SOUTHEASTERN REGION	MID-ATLANTIC REGION	NORTHEASTERN REGION	MIDWEST REGION	WESTERN REGION
Florida	Southern New Jersey	Quebec	Western Ontario	Alaska
Georgia	Pennsylvania	Maritime Provinces	Manitoba	British Columbia
South Carolina	Virginia	Maine	North Dakota	Alberta
North Carolina	West Virginia	New Hampshire	South Dakota	Saskatchewan
Tennessee	Eastern Ontario	Vermont	Nebraska	Washington
Alabama	Delaware	Massachusetts	Kansas	Oregon
Louisiana	Maryland	Connecticut	Missouri	California
Arkansas	Washington D.C.	Rhode Island	Iowa	Hawaii
Mississippi		New York	Minnesota	Arizona
Puerto Rico		Northern Jersey	Wisconsin	Nevada
Virgin Islands			Illinois	Idaho
Caribbean			Indiana	Montana
			Michigan	Wyoming
			Ohio	Utah
			Kentucky	Colorado
				New Mexico
				Texas
				Mexico and Central America

APPENDIX 6

AABGA Awards and Honors 1957-1981

AABGA AWARDS AND HONORS

1957 - Honorary Life Membership - Fredrick Law Olmstead

1958 - Honorary Life Membership - Mrs. Beatrix Farrand

1963 - Honorary Life Membership - Carl Fenninger

1966 - Distinguished Service - Alice V. Burlingame

" " - Louis Bush-Brown

" " - Frederick Heutte

" " - Oscar M. Kirsch

" " - Alfred M.S. Pridham

1969 - Distinguished Service - Lammot Copeland

" " - Henry B. duPont

" " - Henry F. duPont

1970 - Distinguished Service - George Avery

" " - Roy Nordine

" " - John Wister

" " - Donald Wyman

1971 - Distinguished Service - Clarence Godshalk

" " - Brian O. Mulligan

1972 - Citation - The Arnold Arboretum (Centennial Anniversary)

Citation - The Friends of the University of Washington, Inc.

(Sponsoring 1969 Botanical Congress and 1972

Congress of the American Horticultural Society)

1973 - Award of Excellence - Dr. Henry T. Skinner

Certificate of Merit - Dr. Samuel Ayers, Jr.

Certificate of Recognition - The California Arboretum
Foundation

Honorary Life Membership - Dorothy Hansell

Student Travel Award - Douglas C. Ritchey

1974 - Contributions to Arbortum Development - Dr. Leon C. Snyder

Contributions to Horticulture - Dr. Ray C. Allen

Contributions to Horticulture - Dr. Katherine Muller

Contributions to Plant Science - Dr. Edgar T. Wherry

Student Travel Award - Michael Balick

1975 - Citation - Dr. Katherine K. Muller

Contribution to Botany and Horticulture - Dr. Harold St. John

Service to the Advancement of the Plant Sciences - Beatrice H.
Krauss

Student Travel Award - Richard H. Ebesu

1976 - Award of Merit - Mildred E. Mathias

Award of Merit - Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

Award of Merit - John E. Voight

Honorary Life Member - Fred B. Widmoyer

Student Travel Award - Peter J. Poll

1977 - Award of Merit - Hugh Steavenson

Honorary Life Member - Walter E. Eickhorst

Student Travel Award - W. Gary Smith

1978 - Award of Merit - Robert James Hilton

Award of Merit - Leslie Laking

Award of Merit - Joseph W. Oppe

Award of Merit - Henry Teuscher

Student Travel Award - Martha Burdick

1979 - Award of Merit - George Kelly

Award of Merit - Ruth Ashton Nelson

Award of Merit - Catherine Sweeney

Dorothy E. Hansell Award - Missouri Botanical Garden

Dorothy E. Hansell Award - Strybing Arboretum

Student Travel Award - Nicola Burston

1980 - Award of Merit - Mrs. Rosalynn Carter

Award of Merit - Mr. Eugene Cline

Award of Merit - Dr. Richard A. Howard

Award of Merit - Morton Arboretum

Dorothy E. Hansell Award - Botanical Garden of the University
of British Columbia

Dorothy E. Hansell Award - Dawes Arboretum

Student Travel Award - Richard M. Adams II

1981 - Dorothy E. Hansell Award - Strybing Arboretum

Dorothy E. Hansell Award - University of Wisconsin Arboretum

Honorary Life Membership - John E. Voight

APPENDIX 7

Past Officers of the AABGA

PAST OFFICERS OF THE AABGA

Chapter, American Institute of Park Executives, 1940-49

Year	Chairman	Vice-Chairman	Secretary-Treasurer
1940-45	Donald Wyman	Henry T. Skinner	C.E. Godshalk- E.H. Bean
1946-47	Henry T. Skinner	Carl F. Wedell	C.E. Godshalk- E.H. Bean
1948-49	Carl F. Wedell	Henry Teuscher	C.E. Godshalk- E.H. Bean (1948) E.R. Elliott (1949)

American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, Inc., 1950- 1981

Year	President	Vice-President	Secretary-Treasurer
1950-51	C.E. Godshalk	Harold A. Senn	Everett A. Piester (1950) Carl W. Fenninger (1951)
1952-53	Brian O. Mulligan	Stanley M. Rowe	Carl W. Fenninger
1954-55	John C. Wister	Maunsell Van Rensselaer	Carl W. Fenninger
1956-57	Maunsell Van Rensselaer	Bernard E. Harkness	Carl W. Fenninger
1958-59	Bernard E. Harkness	John E. Voight	Carl W. Fenninger
1960-61	John E. Voight	Elizabeth McClintock	Carl W. Fenninger
1962-63	Elizabeth McClintock	Fred C. Galle	Carl W. Fenninger (1962) Fred B. Widmoyer (1963)
1964-65	Fred C. Galle	Leslie Laking	Fred B. Widmoyer
1966-67	Leslie Laking	Francis de Vos	Fred B. Widmoyer
1968-69	Francis de Vos	Louis B. Martin	Fred B. Widmoyer
1970-71	Louis B. Martin	Joseph A. Witt	Fred B. Widmoyer
1972-73	Joseph A. Witt	Richard A. Howard	Fred B. Widmoyer
1974-75	Richard A. Howard	Roy A. Taylor	Fred B. Widmoyer
1976-77	Roy L. Taylor	Richard W. Lighty	Fred B. Widmoyer
1978-79	Richard W. Lighty	Francis Ching	Fred B. Widmoyer
1980-81	Francis Ching	Fred B. Widmoyer	Joseph Oppe

PAST MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, Inc.

1940-43	C. Stuart Gager	1965-67	Gordon Scott
1940-47	Henry Teuscher	1966-68	Dorothy Hansell
1946-51	John C. Wister	1966-68	John M. Fogg
1947-49	Maunsell Van Rensselaer	1967-69	Frances M. Miner
1948-50	Mrs. A.C. Barnes	1967-69	Joseph A. Witt
1950-54	E. Lowell Kammerer	1968-70	Fred W. Freeman
1951-53	Donald Wyman	1968-70	Everitt L. Miller
1952-55	Harry Wood	1969-71	Walter E. Eickhorst
1954-59	Raymond C. Allen	1969-71	John E. Voight
1954-57	L.C. Chadwick	1970-72	C. Gordon Tyrell
1955-56	Richard A. Howard	1970-72	Sylvester C. March
1956-57	Fred G. Meyer	1971-73	Gurdon L. Tarbox
1956-58	George H. Spalding	1971-73	C.W. Eliot Paine
1957-59	Elizabeth McClintock	1972-74	Edward McWilliams
1957-59	Robert L. Woerner	1972-73	Roy L. Taylor
1958-60	Robert R. Clark	1974	Mrs. Edward Cleaveland Sweeney+
1958-60	Edwin Menninger	1973-75	Webster R. Crowley
1959-61	George Avery	1973-75	Richard W. Lighty
1959-61	Milton Baron	1974-76	Francis Ching
1960-62	J.T. Baldwin	1974-76	Angus Paxton Heeps
1960-62	Benjamin Blackburn	1975-77	Joseph W. Oppe
1961-63	Leslie Laking	1975-77	William Gambill
1961-63	Leon C. Snyder	1976-78	John Creech
1962-64	Herbert G. Baker	1976-78	Mai K. Arbegast
1962-64	Percy C. Everett	1977-79	Peter Raven
1963-65	Joseph A. Witt	1977-79	Elizabeth Scholtz
1963-65	Anthony Tyznik	1978-80	Patrick Seymour
1964-66	Gordon E. Jones	1978-80	Peter Bristol
1964-66	R. Henry Norweb, Jr.		
1965-67	John Popenoe		

+To complete the term of Roy L. Taylor

Longwood Program

