

Library Committee Report

In conversations and emails with Dave he has informed there have been no major changes in the inventory of the library. The only additions and subtractions have been some periodicals and on the subtraction side we disposed of some unnecessary items that held no value to the library or to anyone. Dave, Gary White and myself were all in agreement on this.

At the spring board meeting it was agreed to renew our lease with the current building owner while we searched for potential new locations. With Dave's and Gary's help we were able to secure a 2 year lease at the same rate we had paid previously. We are being proactive at this time to seek other possible locations even though we have 2 years. We are looking at possible joint ventures with a horticultural organization to not only house but help maintain our research library and collection. We have contacted both by phone and email the following groups; the Elizabeth C. Miller Horticulture Library at the University of Washington, The Anderson International Horticulture Library at the University of Minnesota (which I recently paid a visit to), the Presby Memorial Iris Garden, the Department of Agriculture's Library in the D.C. area, and a couple of libraries in the Atlanta area one of which is associated with the Botanical Gardens. The University of Washington would be interested in the library but not the collection. They would also like us to gift the library to them. Most of the other libraries we are in open discussions with. But in most cases we are talking with the asst. head librarian and when or if the discussions become more definite we will talk more with the head librarian for finalization. Only the Presby Gardens have failed to return calls or emails. But we have joined their group and receive email newsletters from them. If anyone knows of any other groups our sites we might reach out to we would gladly investigate any potential opportunities.

We are continuing to look into opportunities to modernize to modernize the availability of the library and perhaps even its name. Dave has concerns and after numerous discussions with him I understand his points. Dave was involved with the digitizing of the bulletins and explained to me that they had to be dismantled for this project. The concern is the fragile state and no duplicates of some of the items in the library. Unlike the bulletins where we had multiple copies. But we are continuing to discuss this opportunity with the vendor.

I apologize to the other members of the board for not being able to attend. My thoughts are with you all. But there are times when you must sacrifice and put family first. This is one of those times both my family and my wife's are facing some major situations that will change the dynamics of our respective families. Please understand

Respectfully yours

Ron Cosner