Little Rock 2012

Situated on the Arkansas River, Little Rock is home to a thriving New South culture offering a vibrant nightlife, big-time entertainment, world-class attractions and a booming dining scene with the best Arkansas restaurants serving dishes from all over the globe. Little Rock has a big role in history and looks to the future. Central High School highlights Little Rock’s place in the civil rights movement. In addition, The Clinton Presidential Center welcomes hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world each year. Nearby Little Rock is the Heifer Village, which introduces visitors to the possibility of a world free of hunger and poverty through interactive exhibits that provide a stimulating educational experience.

Letter from the Chair

By Paul Stephenson

Hello to all our members! I hope this letter finds you well and that you are beginning to plan for our section meeting this spring and our national meeting in the summer! This year our Southern Section meeting will be held in Little Rock Arkansas. Our Secretary/Treasurer Dr. Ashlee McCaskill and our local site coordinator, Dr. Mariya Khodakovskaya, at the University of Little Rock Arkansas, have planned a great meeting for us.

In an exciting turn of events, this year’s meeting will be overlapping with the Plant-Powered Production (P3) Center’s annual meeting. The P3 Center is funded by NSF-EPSCoR and focuses on using plants to make useful products. We look forward to meeting P3 members from the University of Arkansas, Arkansas State University, University of Arkansas-
Letter from the Chair continued from pg.1

Little Rock, and University of Central Arkansas.

The Southern Section prides itself on fostering student development and collegiality among plant scientists. Moreover, we encourage students to actively participate in the scientific process and present their own research in a nonthreatening, educational environment.

As this year’s Chair I would like to take the opportunity to invite you and your students to this year’s meeting in Little Rock from April 6 to April 8, 2013 for the annual meeting of the Southern Section of the American Society of Plant Biologists (SS-ASPB). On behalf of the SS-ASPB Executive Committee, we look forward to seeing you in Little Rock!

Paul Stephenson

ASPB National Meeting 2013

The 2013 annual national meeting of the American Society of Plant Biologists will be held in Providence, Rhode Island from July 20th through July 24th, 2013. More information about this year’s meeting can be found at my.aspb.org
Kriton Hatzios Symposium

This year’s Kriton Hatzios Symposium, organized by Vice Chair Dr. Jay Shockey, focuses on Secondary Metabolism, Signaling, and Plant Defense. We look forward to presentations on this topic by....

Dr. Ken Korth
Professor: Dept. of Plant Pathology, University of Arkansas-Fayetteville
“Exploring the role of triterpene saponins in plant-pest defenses using a metabolomics approach”.
http://www.uark.edu/ua/korthlab/

Dr. Eric Schmelz
Plant Physiologist USDA-ARS Center for Medical Agricultural, and Veterinary Entomology Gainesville, Florida
“Newly discovered maize metabolites involved in signaling and defense against biotic attack.”
http://www.ars.usda.gov/pandp/people/people.htm?personid=11781

Dr. Natalia Doudareva
Professor: Dept. of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana
“Biosynthesis, regulation, and metabolic engineering of plant secondary metabolites.”
https://www2.ag.purdue.edu/hla/Pages/Profile.aspx?strAlias=doudarev&intDirDeptID=16
Election News

The results are in from the election for 2013-2014 officers and site selection...

Executive Committee: Dr. Paul Stephenson  The site for the 2014 annual meeting will be Lexington, KY. The local host will be Dr. Joseph Chappell.
Chair: Dr. Jay Shockey
Vice Chair: Dr. Ashlee McCaskill
Secretary/Treasurer: Dr. Rick Turley

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Dr. Kent Chapman, chapman@unt.edu