



APS Awards Chair Duties and Roles

The Awards Chair works with a committee to recommend any of a number of awards to members and plants. These awards are important to the Society as they recognize outstanding member contributions, as well as plant material the general public may be interested in. Such awards publicize the Society's activities and in some instances supply educational value, meeting our mission's requirements. Through Social Media, more and more people have become interested in our society through the promotion of award and have been introduced to fine peonies.

- **Position is appointed/renew through appointment by the President every two years.**
- **Any qualified member of APS may be appointed to the position**
- **Requires:**
 - **Ability to organize data (lists)**
 - **Communicate effectively with members and Directors through meetings and social media**
 - **Some writing skills to produce award information**

Duties

- 1) Meet with a committee as needed to develop a list of possible award candidates (dependent on award)
- 2) Awards: Historically the APS has the following named awards. More or different awards could be added through committee development.
 - a. Gold Medal Peony (Annual Plant Award)
 - i. The Gold Medal Peony Award is given annually to an outstanding peony which satisfies certain "Observable Considerations", as found in the document "Gold Medal Peony: Information and Procedures"
 - ii. The Awards committee surveys members and Director through Social Media, Website and the Bulletin to create a list of candidates and then vets them through the "Observable Considerations" in the months of January through March. Once a satisfactory list has been developed, the list is shared with the Board of Directors to decide on the recipient of the Gold Medal Peony for the year, through vote at a BOD meeting held in April or May.
 - iii. A summary of qualities and a description is then written, and quality images are secured for publication.
 - iv. The summary and images are shared with the Bulletin Editor, Social Media and Website Manager once complete. All three then publicize the award plant with material supplied.
 - b. Bertrand H. Farr Lifetime Achievement Award (Personal Award)
 - i. This award is given to APS members who have meritorious contributions to the society.
 - ii. There may be more than one candidate per year, but most often is limited to one.
 - iii. The committee makes a short list with recommendations to BOD for final decisions. This information should be presented to the BOD in April or March during a BOD meeting.

- iv. The Award is presented at the Annual General Membership Meeting during the Annual Convention.
 - v. A plaque or medal is most often given. APS once had medals designed for personal awards, but no longer has casts. There is sentiment among a number of BOD members to look into possibilities of reinstating medals to given to awardees (at the time of this writing). Plaques with and image and inscription describing awardee contributions have been given in recent years.
- c. A.P. Saunders Memorial Medal (Personal Award)
- i. This award is most often given to hybridizers for their contributions in the development of peony introductions.
 - ii. There may be more than one candidate per year, but most often is limited to one.
 - iii. The committee makes a short list with recommendations to BOD for final decisions. This information should be presented to the BOD in April or March during a BOD meeting.
 - iv. The Award is presented at the Annual General Membership Meeting during the Annual Convention.
 - v. A plaque or medal is most often given. APS once had medals designed for personal awards, but no longer has casts. There is sentiment among a number of BOD members to look into possibilities of reinstating medals to given to awardees (at the time of this writing). Plaques with and image and inscription describing awardee contributions have been given in recent years.
- d. American Peony Society BOD Service Award
- i. This award is given to an APS member (doesn't have to be a Director) who has provided meritorious contributions to the society. The recipient may work behind the scene and be someone who has not received much attention, although they are deserving.
 - ii. There may be more than one candidate per year, but most often is limited to one.
 - iii. The committee makes a short list with recommendations to BOD for final decisions. This information should be presented to the BOD in April or March during a BOD meeting.
 - iv. The Award is presented at the Annual General Membership Meeting during the Annual Convention.
 - v. A plaque is provided, although this award has only been given 1 time. The Award should be given more often as there are numerous members who work silently without much fanfare.
- e. No other general awards exist which are not attached to another function of the society at this time.

Other awards may be developed as needs present themselves.

- 3) Report on award committee details at BOD meetings as needed, but this is not required for meetings other than the Annual Membership Meeting. Recommendation: Write reports for Directors to review (if necessary) prior to BOD meetings throughout the year (send via email). APS would like to move toward less verbal reporting at meetings, with reliance on printed or electronic documents for records.
- 4) Upload reports to the Website's Admin Storage upon completion (Awards Folder).
- 5) Produce an annual Membership Report to be submitted to the President no later than May 15 each year. This report will be included in the "Minutes and Proceedings" for the year. (Earlier reporting may be necessary if the Annual Convention occurs at an earlier date). The Report may include any pertinent information of activities and outcomes the committee had during the current year.
- 6) The Chair should secure another member to train in all aspects of the position to create a succession plan in case of incapacity, retirement or other problems.