

TED PASKESSEN MEMORIAL TROPHY

Last month's announcement of the 1980 Biennial Fuchsia Festival included a brief outline of the Ted Paskesen Memorial Trophy to be awarded biennially, beginning with the 1980 Festival on September 20th in Pacifica.

Ted was one of our oldest members in terms of membership, having joined the AFS in 1938 and having received one of the first forty year membership pins at the Annual meeting in 1978. He was active in many branches in the Bay Area and did much to help in the development of several of those branches. A good organizer, he provided strong guidance in program management to develop and maintain interest in fuchsia culture.

In fact, Ted was the personification of all the purposes of the AFS. The By-Laws say "the Society shall exist for educational purposes. Ted presented many programs in all phases of fuchsia culture. We are "to encourage the introduction and development of fuchsias". As a hybridizer, first in association with Clem Schnabel and later on his own, Ted introduced and developed many beautiful cultivars. As for encouraging development, he also taught many others the fine points of hybridizing.

We are "to gather and publish information regarding fuchsia culture". Ted wrote many articles for the AFS *Bulletin* dating from the 1940's and also prepared many culture brochures which he freely gave in answer to letters from many places in the world while he served as Corresponding Secretary. And we are "to issue bulletins and other such publication". Ted was AFS *Bulletin* Editor in the early forties. In addition to all of the above, Ted was a founding member and past president of the San Francisco Branch. In other words, you name it, he did it, all for the love of fuchsias, the AFs and especially its members. One of Ted's dreams and goals was to develop a double orange fuchsia and most of his later work took this direction, as evidenced by the number of such cultivars registered by the American Fuchsia Society. With this in mind it was thought that the establishment of a Trophy for the Best Orange Colored Fuchsia would be a most appropriate memorial. This plan has been approved by the Board of Directors, making such a competition a regular part of future Festivals.

The Trophy will be awarded for the best orange colored fuchsia grown to any recognized form by an AFS member. The entry must be a variety listed by the American Fuchsia Society and the color list of AFS registrations will determine acceptable cultivars. Since Ted's passing last year individual members and some branches have indicated a desire to participate in a memorial to Ted's memory. Since Ted had so many friends, both individuals and branches are now invited to help create a fund to set up and perpetuate this memorial to one of our greatest fuchsia hybridizers and growers. Please donate what you can to the trophy fund.

San Francisco and Pacifica Branches will jointly administer funds collected from private and branch contributions for the purchase of trophies.

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Editor's note: Today there is just one AFS branch with a judged show, Crescent City Branch. Many current members didn't have the opportunity to meet Ted, but are familiar with Ted's fuchsias, such as 'Bicentennial', 'Buttercup', 'Hula Girl', 'Icicle' or 'Igloo'.