

A Conference Gallery

Several conference participants share their images for us here. We had so many wonderful photos that it was very difficult to select an assortment for this gallery. We hope the ones we included will give everyone who could not attend a feeling for this great event, and will bring back fond memories for those who were lucky enough to be there. You will find three sets of images representing the Pre-Conference Tour, the Conference itself, and the Post-Conference Tour.



Pre-Conference Tour



Identifying oaks by the abaxial surfaces of the leaves - Dan Keiser (USA), Allen Coombes (Mexico), and Bill Funk (Australia). photo©Guy Sternberg



Photo Stop in Guerrero.

photo©Guy Sternberg



The acorn walk.

photo©Ron Lance

The acorn crawl.

photo©Guy Sternberg



Antoine le Hardy de Beaulieu getting a good look at *Quercus scytophylla*.
photo©Guy Sternberg



The historic city of Taxco, seen from our Hotel La Borda at dusk.

photo©Guy Sternberg



Participants from a dozen countries experience the vegetation of Ecoguardas Park near Mexico City.

photo©Guy Sternberg



The typical "bubble bark" of a lichen-encrusted young *Quercus castanea*.

photo©Guy Sternberg



Kunso Kim with *Quercus conspersa* in Taxco.

photo©Guy Sternberg

Renewing old friendships among the oaks

Maricela and Emily



Béatrice and Dan



Tonio and Michel

photo©Guy Sternberg, Gert Fortgens and Henry Eilers



Some of the world's top oak experts from France, Belgium, Mexico, and Spain try to identify oaks. photo©Béatrice Chassé



A local boy observing the International Oak Society. photo©Guy Sternberg

The Conference



The magnificent Salon Barroco in Puebla, where we held our opening reception.

photo©Guy Sternberg



Maricela Rodríguez-Acosta begins the opening reception in the beautiful Salon Barroco in Puebla.

photo©Guy Sternberg



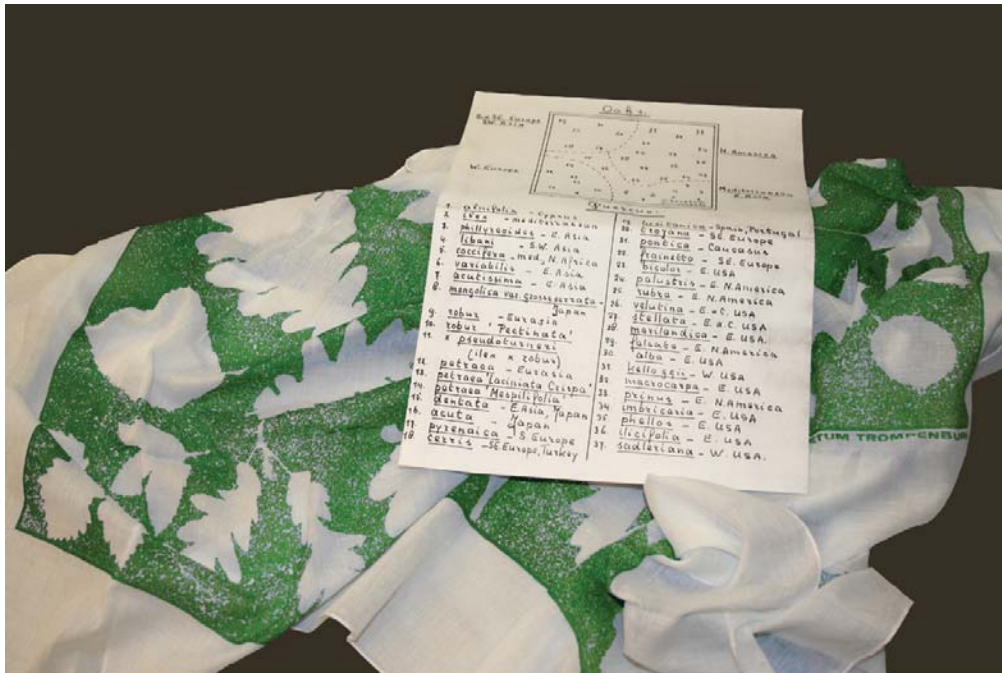
Opening ceremonies at the Benemérita University, Puebla Faculty Auditorium.

photo©Guy Sternberg



Outgoing IOS President Allen Coombes gavels the 2009 Conference to order. Maricela Rodríguez-Acosta, conference chairperson, is at right. Dr. Pedro Hugo Hernández Tejeda, Research and Postgraduate Studies Vice Chancellor for Benemérita University of Puebla, is at left. Ing. Manuel Herrera Sanchez, Puebla State Manager for the National Forestry Commission, Gulf-Center is at far left.

photo©Guy Sternberg



Dick and Riet van Hoey Smith, founding members, were unable to attend the conference. But they donated 30 pure silk scarves screened by Riet with oak leaves collected by Dick from Trompenburg Gardens and Arboretum, along with a key to the species. The scarves were given to participants at the business meeting, and were a big hit with the members who received them. Our hearty appreciation is extended to Dick and Riet for this generous (and educational!) donation, and for everything they have done over the years for the International Oak Society.

photo©Gert Fortgens



Making things work behind the scenes: our skilled driver, Tomas Herrera Hernández and two of the students on Maricela's helpful team, Carolina and Lupita.

photo©Guy Sternberg



Incoming Board of Directors

Charles Snyers d'Attenhoven, Belgium; Bill Hess, US; Béatrice Chassé, France; Dirk Benoit, Belgium; Allan Taylor, US; Allen Coombes, Mexico; Guy Sternberg, US; Rudy Light, US; Jim Hitz, US.



Outgoing Board of Directors 2006-2009

Ron Lance, US; Bill Hess, US; Allen Coombes, UK/Mexico; Guy Sternberg, US; Béatrice Chassé France; Dirk Benoit, Belgium; not present: Richard Jensen US; and Doug McCreary, US.

photo©Michel Timacheff



May I have your acorn?

photo©Guy Sternberg



Seed Exchange in a tent on the grounds of the Benemérita University of Puebla Botanic Garden.

photo©Guy Sternberg



Carlos Alberto Guizado Hernández and Agustín Licea Muñoz who played a mix of traditional and contemporary music at the concert given during the opening ceremony of the Conference. photo©Guy Sternberg



2009 Conference attendees at Haras del Bosque for the final banquet. photo©Guy Sternberg



Adolpho Ballina -
our capable translator



Simultaneous translation using headphones was a very successful new experience for an IOS Conference.

photo©Guy Sternberg

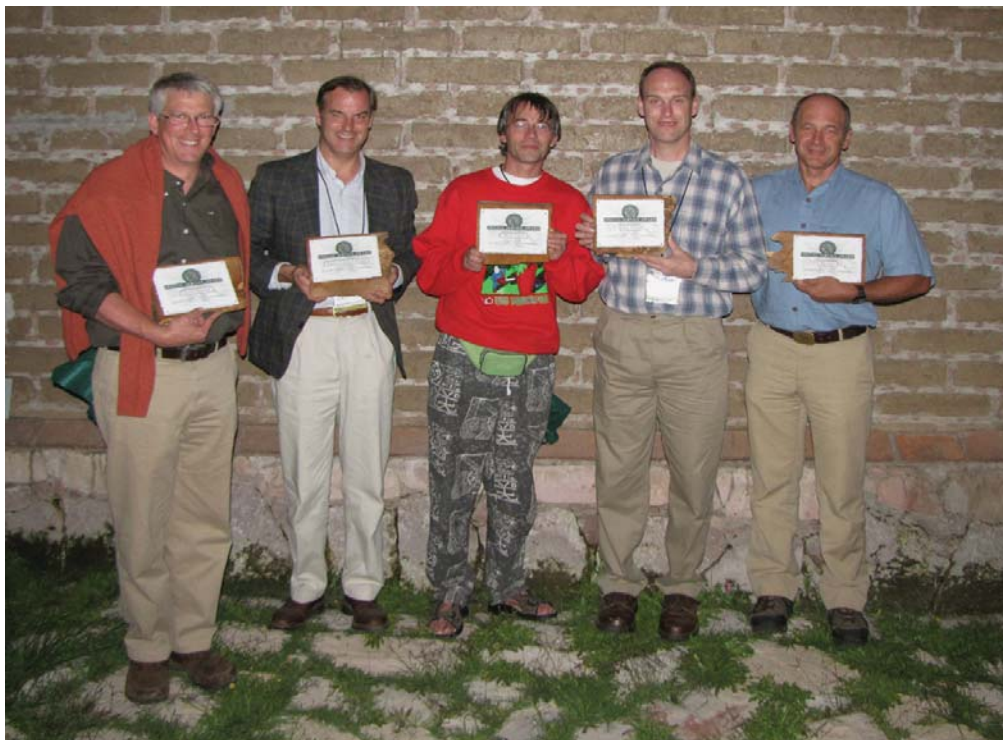


Night view of the cathedral near the hotels in Puebla.

photo©Guy Sternberg



Several people contributed seeds even though they could not attend - here Eike Jablonski collects acorns for the seed exchange from the ancient Feme Eiche in Germany, to be sent to Mexico with Jean-Claude Weber. Thanks Eike, and everyone else who contributed! photo©Carmen Jablonski



IOS Special Service Awards 2009
Michel Timacheff, Antoine le Hardy, Thierry Lamant, Matt Strong, Ron Lance.
photo©Guy Sternberg



Distracted by weeds while the rest of us found all the acorns: Béatrice Chassé, Dan Keiser, Gert Fortgens, Tim Boland, and Todd Lasseigne. photo©Guy Sternberg



The great volcano Popocatepetl rises over pines and oaks with its constant plume of smoke. photo©Guy Sternberg

Post-Conference Tour



Henry "Weeds" Eilers contemplates an Acorn (Bellota) machete at the street market in Cuetzalan.

photo©Guy Sternberg



The rain pours down through leaves of *Quercus corrugata* in Cuetzalan.

photo©Henry Eilers



The IOS welcomes Dusan Placek and Ondrej Fous from the Czech Republic where we need to recruit oak enthusiasts as enthusiastic as they are (with Guy, three wild and crazy guys!).

photo©Henry Eilers



Keiko Tokunaga (Japan), John Gammon (England), Thierry Lamant (France), and Gert Fortgens (Netherlands) take a break from the pouring rain at the beautiful Botanic Garden Fransisco Javier Clavijero in Xalapa.

photo©Guy Sternberg



The spectacular setting of Cuetzalan.

photo©Guy Sternberg



Guy Sternberg in a large *Yucca periculosa* near Perote Volcano.

photo©Ron Lance



Quercus corrugata acorns (sack at forefront of photo) are collected in large quantities by a local resident, Amoparo Saldo var in Cuetzalan, for local crafts.

photo©Guy Sternberg



A field of *Quercus insignis* acorns.

photo©B. Chassé



Henry "Weeds" Eilers with one of the largest acorns found.



Guy Sternberg with the harvest.

photo©Dan Keiser