



Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation June, 2008

President's Message By Kristan Johnson, WWFRF President

I write this in celebration of all of the amazing changes that have been happening since the Winter newsletter came out!

First, we were awarded Best Educational Booth at this year's Northwest Flower and Garden Show. This award culminates the concerted efforts over the past few years to create the "Fruit Booth" by making the backdrop, assembling and framing the posters on the walls, and creating the handouts on the tables. We have a new committee of dedicated Fruitbooth volunteers who are working to make an even better booth that we share with the Seattle Tree Fruit Society at the Flower and Garden Show.



Linda Knudsen, presents Kristan Johnson the award for Best Educational Booth.

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who have already helped and are continuing to help the Fruitbooth grow.

JoAnn Alidina, Elizabeth Ansell, De Arbogast, Ira Collins, Bill Davis, Mike Donahue, Richard & Jennifer Fairfield, Tamara Hall, Steve Haynack, Adriana Hernandez, Kristan Johnson, Shirley & Walt Kropp, Lynda Leary, Georgene Lee, Tove Lund, Linda Markholt, Tarn Mower, Tom Mueller, Rachel Petrich, Chris Robison, Bradley Smith, Karen Todd, Connie Wurm,

Next, is the effort to "Save the Fruit Garden". This is a huge, ongoing achievement, involving many dedicated folks who have put in so much effort. Thanks to our Vice President, Sam Benowitz, for taking charge of the fundraising effort!! I can't tell you how much time he, Ellen Bynum, and others have applied to raising the \$13,593 dollars we have

received so far, thanks to all of you, and we still have another \$13,918 to go before November to take advantage of the matching funds pledge by an anonymous donor to meet our goal of \$55,000. This is a terrific opportunity to raise money to secure the future of WWFRF and the Garden, **please help us achieve our funding goals this summer.**

A critical part of the "Save the Fruit Garden" has been the addition of Bradley Smith as manager with Tom Wake as vice-manager. They have stepped up to take over since De Arbogast has retired. I would like to take this opportunity to thank De for all of the years of hard work and unwavering faith he has put into the Fruit Garden, and to recognize that without his leadership and team of valiant volunteers, the wonderful Fruit Garden we know would not exist!

For those of you who enjoy and help with the espaliers on the East border, I have great news! The materials for building the West espalier were donated from a local orchard, and through the much appreciated extra effort of many of the volunteers, they were moved and stored in the Fruit Garden this winter, and we will begin installation this summer. This new addition to our espalier system will allow us to demonstrate the training of non-spur types of fruits, such as cherry and plum espaliers grown in a fan shape, figs, persimmons, currants, gooseberries, and more!

I also want to thank Tom Muller and De Arbogast for pulling together the very successful Winter Open House. Tom is relatively new on our WWFRF Board of Directors, and he's really stepped up and taken on the needed projects of the Fall and Winter Open houses. If you like these events and would like to pitch in, please contact Tom or myself.

We welcome Dr. Pete Jacoby, Agriculture Program Director WSU Extension, as the new interim NWREC superintendent. We had a very productive meeting with Pete and he also toured the Fruit Garden recently. Thanks to Debbie Inglis for her years of work at that position while the new facility was being built. There is a possibility that a permanent superintendent will be named within a year.

We want to thank Carol Miles for securing funding for the Drip Irrigation Information Kiosk which Bradley and the Fruit Garden gang have taken on to build and install. It will highlight the benefits and techniques of using this type of water-wise irrigation system. Gary Moulton and I will be giving a talk about drip irrigation following the August 9th "Sample the Harvest Days" at 2:00 - 3:00 pm in the Fruit Garden.

The educational talks (which take place just before we drive out to the fruit trials) on the "Sample the Harvest Days" have been very well received! We greatly appreciate the terrific insights that Gary Moulton has been sharing about tree fruit growing details (which I personally have not seen taught anywhere else to non-professional groups). A hardy welcome to Tyler Campbell, our new Coordinating Secretary, who will be helping me run the "Sample the Harvest Days" this year, so make sure to introduce yourself and let him know how we can improve in our efforts.

I particularly want to thank all of you who have helped us transition and grow into becoming a more educationally oriented organization. The WSU university requires us to fulfill this role, to the benefit WWFRF, the Fruit Garden, and all of the folks in the Region who use us as an information and demonstration source for GROWING GREAT FRUIT!!

We'll see you out there this summer!

Kristan Johnson



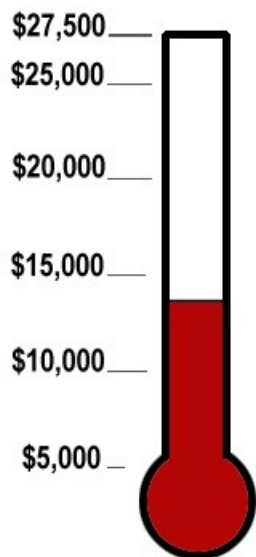
Thank You De!



Now retiring after many years of managing the Fruit Garden, we would like to give a special thank you to De Arbogast. Although he is retiring as manager, De is still very involved with helping out with the Fruit Garden and with WWFRF.

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Fruit Garden Donation Thermometer

We are almost half way to our goal of \$27,500, which will be matched to make \$55,000 for the Fruit Garden!

2008 Calendar of Events



- March 8 (Sat)** **Winter Open House 9:00-2:30**
 Steve Johnson: Pruning / Panel discussion: Rootstocks
 Don McMoran: Apple maggot / Bill Davis: Grafting
 Learn pruning, grafting, budding / scion-wood & rootstock sales
Hands on Pruning in the Fruit Display Garden 1:00
- July 12 (Sat)** **Sample Harvest: Cherries 11:00**
- August 9 (Sat)** **Sample Harvest: Peaches, Plums 11:00**
 Drip irrigation class 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm Kristan Johnson, Gary Moulton
- September 6 (Sat)** **Sample Harvest: Asian Pears, Apples 11:00**
- October 11 (Sat)** **Fall Open House 9:00-2:00**
Apple ID!! Professional w/ graduates of Systematic Pomology
 Anthracnose report: Chang-Lin Xiao Tree Fruit Research WSU
 Soil Fertility: Darin Heiland
Sample The Harvest Day: Apples, Pears 1:00

Visit our 7-acre **Fruit Display Garden** exhibiting espaliers, antique apples, rootstock comparisons, and many of the best fruit varieties for Western Washington!

LOCATION: Events held at Washington State University,
 Northwest Washington Research and Extension Center, 16650 State Route 536, **Mount Vernon, WA.**

Always check the website before attending Sample Harvest days to make sure the harvest is proceeding as scheduled!
 MORE INFO AT: <http://www.wwfrf.org>

Credit cards now accepted!

Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation has teamed with Network for Good, an organization assisting non-profit organizations and charities with fundraising. Through Network for Good, charge cards can now be accepted for dues and donation payments. Here's how to donate:

- 1) Go to www.networkforgood.org (we will soon have a direct link on our website to Network for Good.)
- 2) On the first screen, type 'Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation' in the box labeled 'charity'
- 3) On the second screen click 'donate now'
- 4) On the third screen, type in the amount you wish to give and specify whether this is a one-time or recurring donation. Also, in the box labeled 'designation', please specify whether you are paying membership dues or giving a donation, or giving a donation specified for the demonstration garden.
- 5) The fourth screen gives you the option to change the information you have given. Click 'proceed to checkout'.
- 6) Subsequent screens ask you for your email address, credit card information and other relevant data. You also have the option to add an additional 4.75% of your donation to your total to cover the amount we pay Network for Good for processing.
- 7) You will receive an acknowledgement of your donation by email.

Get Your Growing Great Fruit Hat!

We finally have what you have all been waiting for: WWFRF hats! You can buy yours for \$15 for members or \$10 for members who are volunteers or board members. Each volunteer will be awarded a gold star to display on their hats for each 20 hours of volunteer time they have donated and red apple pins will signify 100 hours of volunteer time.



PLEASE SEND YOUR DONATION ALONG WITH THIS FORM September, 2007

Enclosed is my gift of:

\$5000 \$1000 \$500 \$100 \$50 \$25 \$_____ (Make check payable to WWFRF)

To make a donation by credit card go to: <http://www.networkforgood.org/> and type in "Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation" in the box labeled "charity".

Please designate my monetary gift toward:

Where it is needed most!
 Fruit Display Garden
 Fruit Variety Trials
 Sampling and Field Days

I would like to volunteer!

In the Display Garden
 On a WWFRF committee
 On sampling and field days
 Tell me how I can help

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email address _____ Phone # _____

Please make my gift: In Honor of: In Memory of:
(Name of person) _____
Address of person or person's family _____

(So we can notify them)

Thank you.. Please send to: Walter Kropp
 WWFRF Treasurer
 29838 Marine View Dr. SW
 Federal Way, WA 98023

Your gift is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Please consult your tax accountant for details.



New WWFRF Logo



With considerable input from Kristan Johnson, I have designed a new logo for WWFRF, which you can see on the first and last pages of this newsletter, and it is also on the new caps. Those of us on the board of directors felt that the slogan "Growing Great Fruit" summarizes our goal, to help anyone who wishes to grow fruit to... grow *great* fruit.

Kim Siebert, WWFRF Newsletter editor

Cold Spring – Sample Days may be changed!

Check our website at <http://www.wwfrf.org/> before coming to the sample days this summer because bloom time was so late that some days may have to be changed to a later time. If you don't have internet you may call Kim Siebert at 360-925-6454 the day before for a recorded message about the Sample Day. Due to the abnormally cold spring and the reduction of bee activity, we need to adjust our expectations of Mother Nature, and be prepared for reduced production.

WWFRF Financial Report: 5/1/08

By Walt Kropp, WWFRF Treasurer, Board Member

Current Funds as of 5/1/08

Non-Restricted Funds	\$4413.26
(Operating Expenses plus Research)	
Display Garden Funds	\$ 22890.08
Total Funds on hand 5/1/08	\$27,303.34

Foundation Sponsored Research

Income

Donations \$1725.60

Expenses

WSU Addendum #18
(for fruit research) \$ 4,469.00

Fruit Garden Funds Summary

Income

Donations \$13,593.57

Total Expenses

\$ 842.96

Difference

\$12,750.61

Operating Expenses

Income

Membership Dues \$1925.00
Spring Field Day \$1130.90

Total Income \$ 3055.90

Expenses

Spring Field Day \$80.13
Flower and Garden Show \$706.91
Washington State Filing Fee \$10.00
WWFRF Sign \$650.40
Internet Connection Fee \$60.00
Printing & Mailing \$1,338.49
Fall Field Day Expenses \$187.52

Total Expenses \$5,070.87

Difference \$+4,625.42

Totals

Total Income (All Categories) \$18,375.07

All Expenses (All Categories) \$7,638.50

Difference \$+10,736.57

We owe WSU \$4300 for the remainder of Addendum #18

Minutes for General Membership meeting, Board Meeting, and Retreat

By Kim Siebert, WWFRF Recording Secretary, Board Member

General Membership Meeting March 3, 2008

Meeting opened at 12:25 P.M.

Board members present: Kristan Johnson, Walter Kropp, JoAnn Alidina, Sam Benowitz, Kim Siebert, De Arbogast, Tom Mueller, and Bill Davis voting by proxy.

Membership: JoAnn Alidina reported that we added 23 new members at the field day, with 19 one day participants. The computer program is being reorganized for easier data extraction and sorting of memberships.

Treasurer's report: Walter Kropp – Current Funds as of 3/6/08: \$21925.39, with about \$15000 being restricted for the Display Garden.

Anthracnose Trial Funding: Kristan- Thanks to Western Cascade Fruit Society which has donated the \$3000 for the first stage of the anthracnose trials. Motion was made by Walt to give \$3000 for the trial. Seconded by De. Passed unanimously;

A motion was made by De to accept the financial report, seconded by Tom Mueller. Passed unanimously.

Proposed Fruit Research: A verbal promise was made to NARF to channel \$10,000 for funding fruit research. Afterwards we discovered NARF's fiscal system is oriented toward working with funding from commercial interests which use a current year fiscal cycle versus a one year delayed fiscal cycle that WSU and therefore that WWFRF uses. Due to the discrepancies between the two organization's fiscal cycles it was voted at the last meeting to rescind the agreement.

De Arbogast made a motion that we fund \$8600 for fruit research in 2008. Seconded by Kim Siebert. Passed.

Brad Smith make a motion that If we were required by NARF to pay the extra \$1400 we have an addendum to pay \$1400 subject to the availability of funds. Not passed.

Meeting adjourned.

Board Meeting. March 3, 2008

Kristan: **Election of Board Members** – Tyler Campbell, Tom Wake and Brad Smith were elected as board members. Sam Benowitz, Bill David and Kristan Johnson were reelected as board members. De Arbogast will be retiring but plans to remain active as the webmaster and also in the Fruit Garden and Open Houses.

Display Garden – WSU has declared a moratorium on new plant material in the Display Garden until we show that we can pay for a coordinator.

We have been speaking with representatives at Fairhaven College. We may be able to start a program for recent graduates to help with the position of coordinator.

One of the Sakuma sons will be hired to do spraying and part time tech in the Display Garden.

After discussion Kim Siebert motioned that the board be authorized to move forward to hire a part time volunteer coordinator for the Display Garden as funds are available. Seconded by Tom Mueller. Passed.

Meeting adjourned.

WWFRF Retreat April 5, 2008

Board members present: Kristan Johnson, JoAnn Alidina, Tyler Compbell, Tom Wake, Brad Smith, Kim Siebert, Tom Mueller, Sam Benowitz, Bill Davis.

Kristan announced that NARF is refunding the \$5000 we sent them.

After discussion, a motion was made by Kim Siebert and seconded by Tom Mueller to allocate up to \$1000 to fund an educational outreach program paying the IRS rate for travel reimbursement and \$20 per hour plus ½ time for travel time to and from the site. Passed.

Bill Davis made a motion to reimburse Kristan Johnson up to \$1000 for the sign at the Fruit Garden. Seconded by JoAnn Alidina. Passed
Brad Smith made a motion to hold back \$2000 from the research budget for the next five years or until we have a cushion of \$10,000 in order to be certain that we will always be able to pay our obligations. Seconded by Kim Siebert. Passed.

Kim Siebert was voted in as Recording Secretary.

Sam Benowitz made a motion to allocate up to \$325 for fabric to improve the road to the Fruit Garden. Seconded by Tom Mueller. Passed.

Kim Siebert made a motion to allocate up to \$400 for MS Access Pro. Seconded by JoAnn Alidina. Passed.

Fruit Horticulture – Quarterly Report May 2008

Gary Moulton & Jacky King

Late snow and frost as well as the slow cold spring weather in April have delayed the bloom time of the fruit trees by about 3 weeks, and somewhat retarded the activity of bees and other pollinators. There appear to be some windows of opportunity for pollination but we will have to wait and see what kind of crop will be produced.

The spring Field Day on March 8 was well attended by members, covering topics of pruning, grafting and pest control, including demonstrations in the field. Scionwood and rootstock sales were also in demand. Thanks go to WWFRF volunteers for all their help in cutting, preparing and distributing the scionwood.

Jacky represented the Fruit Horticulture department at the Spring Fruit Show in Ballard on March 22, sponsored by the Seattle Tree Fruit Society. She gave a presentation on the best apple varieties – new and old – and answered questions on the tree fruit research program at Mount Vernon.

Under the direction of Dr. Carol Miles, an advisory committee has been organized to consult with Carol and Gary on the directions and priorities for future research in the tree fruit area of the Fruit Horticulture program. Members of this committee are drawn from WWFRF and garden groups, nursery and commercial growers.

Carol, Gary and Dr. Pete Jacoby, the new Acting Director at WSU Mount Vernon NWREC, met on April 29, 2008 with WWFRF Board members, past and current Fruit Demo Garden managers, and other interested parties regarding plans for the Fruit Demo Garden. A number of topics were discussed, with suggestions put forward for the continued development of the garden, and ways to integrate it more fully with WSU project aims.

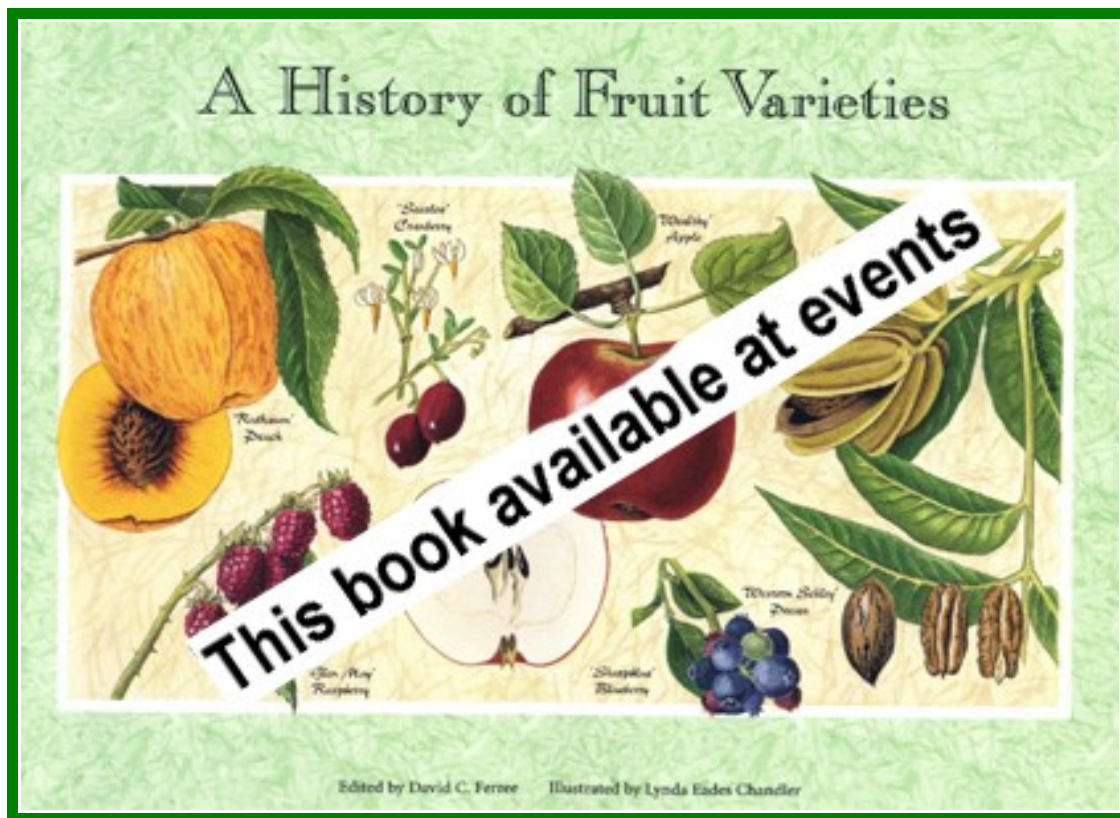
Dr. Chang-Lin Xiao, the plant pathologist from the Tree Fruit Research Center in Wenatchee, is in the process of completing his work to identify species and strains of anthracnose from samples collected last October from 7 infected apple orchards in western Washington. We appreciate the leadership and support of WWFRF in allocating \$3,000 of their very limited resources to fund the initial phase of this research project. Dr Xiao will be presenting the results of this research at the Field Day and Open House on October 11, 2008

Coming up the week of June 23-27, 2008 is another session of the ongoing Cider School, a course taught by Peter Mitchell, expert cider maker and trainer from Worcestershire, England. This course in Principles and Practice of Cider Making is a comprehensive, hands-on introduction to hard cider and perry production. For details about the course and registration, see <http://learningcenters.wsu.edu/skagit/cider.html> or contact Debra Lancaster at 360-416-7605.

A beginners' workshop in Basic Wine Making: Maritime Grape Emphasis will be held June 30, 2008. This course will cover the basics of winemaking (costs, equipment, wine microorganisms, and what to look for in your grapes) as well as winemaking techniques especially suited for Westside grapes. The class features talks by experienced Washington winemakers. For details about the course and registration, see <http://learningcenters.wsu.edu/skagit/wine.html> or contact Debra Lancaster at 360-416-7605.

Two other workshops on wine making will be hosted by the Northwest Agriculture Business Center: Artisan Distilling on June 20-21, 2008 and Business of Making Wine on June 28, 2008. See their web site at <http://www.agbizcenter.org/home> for further details and registration information.

Carol Miles continues to be very helpful in advising on grant applications. She secured funding for a small project to set up an informational kiosk on irrigation in the Fruit Demo Garden and conduct a short workshop on the topic.



Thank you to Fruit Grower Magazine!!

We are pleased to announce that members may buy a copy of *A History of Fruit Varieties*, which was donated to us by **Good Fruit Grower Magazine** of Yakima, at our events for \$5, and \$15 for non-members. This book has the history of many individual varieties of fruit, telling when they were discovered or planted and how they became available to the public, etc.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Annual memberships cost \$25/year for Individuals and \$40/year per Family (One Household only). Membership entitles you to the newsletter, participation at all Field Days/Open Houses and Harvest Days, at no additional charge; other types of memberships are also available. Visit www.wwfrf.org and download the membership form OR contact **JoAnn Alidina, Membership Chair at (206) 789-1106, email: alidina.j@comcast.net** for a membership form.

The **WWFRF Newsletter** is printed 3x/ year in February, June, and September and mailed or emailed to all members.

FIELD DAYS/ OPEN HOUSES are free to members, and open to non-members for One-Day only fees of @ \$15/ Individual and \$25.00/ Family

(One immediate household only, max. 4 persons/household) at **each** event.

- The **Spring Field Day/ Open House** is usually held at the end of **February**, and consists of hands-on pruning, grafting and budding, talks on insects and pests, scion wood sale, and root stock sale.
- The **Fall Field Day/ Open House** is usually held in **October** (and includes the *Fall Sample Day* for the same fee), and covers various topics e.g., best fruit varieties for our area, harvest techniques, preservation and storage, orchard mason bees, fertilizer and nutrition, home wine and cider production, and fruit tasting.

SAMPLE DAYS are free to members, and open to non-members @ \$15/ Individual and \$25.00/ Family (One household only) at **each** event:

- **Sample Days** are held in **July, August, September, and October**. The following fruit is harvested in season: cherries, peaches, nectarines, pears, plums, and apples. Paid members and non-members are allowed to keep their portion of the harvested fruit.
- **Special Volunteer Harvests** occur on an as-needed basis to assist the WSU NWREC staff in harvesting specific fruit for data collection. This harvest is open to paid members only, and paid members are allowed to keep a portion of the harvest.

Have you renewed your membership yet? WWFRF membership is valid for 12 months from the date your check is received. **Your membership expiration date is printed above your name on the mailing label indicating the month and year that your membership expires. Renew your membership before it expires by completing the Membership Form and mailing it in.**



Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation Membership Form

Please check one box ONLY: Renewal New Member

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ 9-DIGIT ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: (_____) _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Please check all applicable lines to designate type of membership, extra donation, and/or individual or family open house/field day:

- _____ \$25 FOR ANNUAL **INDIVIDUAL** MEMBERSHIP *(One person only)*
- _____ \$40 FOR ANNUAL **FAMILY** MEMBERSHIP *(One immediate household only; maximum 4 persons)*
- _____ \$ _____ FOR **GIFT** MEMBERSHIP FOR: *(Please note for Whom Above)*
- _____ \$60 FOR ANNUAL **SUSTAINING** MEMBERSHIP *(Individual or family membership with higher level of financial support)*
- _____ \$60 FOR ANNUAL **CIDER APPLE SUSTAINING** MEMBERSHIP *(Sustaining membership with interest in cider apples)*
- _____ \$60 FOR ANNUAL **WINE GRAPE SUSTAINING** MEMBERSHIP *(Sustaining membership with interest in wine grapes)*
- _____ \$125 FOR ANNUAL **COMMERCIAL (List Only)** MEMBERSHIP *(Includes 3 people, and also includes business name on our website)*
- _____ \$200 FOR ANNUAL **COMMERCIAL (Full)** MEMBERSHIP
(Includes 3 people, and also includes a link from our website to the commercial members' website)
- _____ AN **EXTRA DONATION** of \$ _____ for WWFRF
- _____ \$15 FOR **INDIVIDUAL One-Day** OPEN HOUSE/FIELD DAY **ONLY**
- _____ \$25 FOR **FAMILY One-Day** OPEN HOUSE/FIELD DAY **ONLY** *(One household only; maximum 4 persons)*

I WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO DO THE FOLLOWING FOR WWFRF (please check all applicable lines):

- _____ TO HELP WITH FIELD WORK AT THE **WWFRF FRUIT DISPLAY GARDEN** (usually held every Thursday from 9am-12noon; March-Nov.)
- _____ TO HELP WITH FIELD WORK AT THE **WSU NWREC** in Mount Vernon
- _____ TO HELP SET UP THE DAY BEFORE A **FIELD DAY** (Field Days are usually held in February and October every year)
- _____ TO HELP AT THE **SAMPLING DAY**. Please check ALL applicable boxes: Parking Registration Bags Distribution
- _____ TO HELP AT **FRUIT TASTING/ROOTSTOCK SALES**
- _____ TO HELP WWFRF ON AN **ONGOING BASIS**
- _____ TO HELP WWFRF AT THE **NORTHWEST FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW** in Seattle (usually held in February every year)
- _____ TO HELP WWFRF AT VARIOUS **DISPLAY BOOTHS** presented in _____ COUNTY
- _____ TO HELP WWFRF SELL FRUIT at the **FALL FRUIT SHOW**
- _____ TO HELP WITH **SPECIAL FRUIT HARVESTING DAYS, IN SEASON**, AT THE WSU NWREC

Please make your check payable to: WWFRF and MAIL your completed membership form and check to:

WWFRF
C/O Walter Kropp, Treasurer
29838 Marine View Drive SW
Federal Way, WA 98023



In this Issue!

Fruitbooth Award

WWFRF Caps

Our New Logo

A thank you to our retiring

Fruit Garden Director

**The color version of this newsletter may be found on our website at:
www.wwfrf.org (The pictures and Logo look fantastic in color!)**

Mission: WWFRF exists to advance fruit horticultural programs for our unique Western Washington maritime climate through advocacy, research, education, and demonstration for the benefit of the general public and the small farmer.

Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation (WWFRF)

C/O Walter Kropp
29838 Marine View Dr. SW
Federal Way, WA 98023
www.wwfrf.org

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Please check your label to see if your membership needs renewing.