



Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation

June, 2010

President's Message

By Kristan Johnson, WWFRF President

Hi folks,

It feels like spring cleaning! We've been busy going through our records, revisiting our Bylaws, and condensing our Tree Fruit Trials. Ellen Cooley directed a search through boxes of old Tree Fruit Research records reaching back to early times in the Program, and we plan to continue to sort and sift through the data until we can make these records of the trials available to WWFRF members. This compiled data is vitally important when comparing fruiting and growing characteristics. For instance, during the Plum Symposium tasting last year, certain plums of the same name that were collected from different sources were found to have different characteristics. If you would like to help us complete this effort on your home computer, let us know.

A huge thanks goes out to our Coordinating Secretary Shirley Kropp, who is using her formidable lawyer skills to help us organize the WWFRF Bylaws, procedures, and protocol. In doing so we hope to streamline our process and make sure we are in compliance with the many layers of rules which govern WWFRF as a non-profit.

Similarly, we been doing some cleanup work of the completed Fruit Tree Trials at NWREC, transplanting many valuable trees into the Fruit Garden. Thanks to the many Fruit Garden volunteers who shoveled and worked so hard in those winter days. If you would like to pitch in and work a great group of folks in the Fruit Garden, the workday is every Thursday from 9:00 to 1:00.



Max Morange and Kristan Johnson transplanting large & small trees from trial fields into the Fruit Garden.

WWFRF continues to fund Tree Fruit Research, even though Gary Moulton's position and the program at NWREC were officially eliminated this year due to severe WSU budget cuts. NWREC Director Steve Jones and I met with WSU Dean Dan Bernardo, and came up with a plan to reinstate the Program with a Tree Fruit Research Phd when an opening becomes available. This may take a while, but we feel the resultant Phd will be able to both: fill the need for research, and be an extension outreach to the Westside Tree Fruit growing community.

Meanwhile, go to the WWFRF.org website and see if you are in the new video about the Winter Field Day. As you can see, we certainly had great weather; many thanks to the volunteers who helped put on the best Winter Field Day ever! We hope to make short videos of our other 2 event days as well, starting with the upcoming

Sample the Cherry Harvest Day on July 10, so wear your best smiles! Along with the website, we hope to use the videos in FruitBooth events like the Northwest Flower & Garden Shows. If you have an interest in helping with our Website, Videos, Transcribing presentations, Summer Fruit Festival, or helping in any way, please contact WWFRF Volunteer Coordinator Christy Nieto fieldofgreens@earthlink.net, we certainly can use the extra help.

Speaking of the Summer Fruit Festival, we expect a large turnout with a panel on the dreaded new pest Spotted Wing Fruit Fly and this year's theme: Unusual Summer Fruits such as Figs and Kiwis. So hop on board and help us put on another great event!

Kristan

Board Meeting

We will be having a board meeting on July 10, 2010 beginning at 9:00 am at the Master Gardener's Pavilion at NWREC (next to the Fruit Garden). All members are welcome to attend the meeting.

Summer Fruit Festival Needs Volunteers!

August 28th, 2010



We need festival volunteers!

Summer is an especially busy time for gardeners and fruit growers and is also the time of year for celebrating the harvest with events such as the Summer Fruit Festival on August 28th. We couldn't put this event on without our generous volunteers. In fact, our organization is 100% volunteer run. Please consider volunteering for one of the following 6 positions:

Commercial Booth Coordinator - Get our commercial vendors set up and situated at Summer Fruit Festival

Publicity Volunteer - Help us get the word out on this event using newspapers, journals, websites, etc.

Parking – Greeters - Membership Table - Booth Sales

If you are able to help or want more information on these roles please contact our Volunteer Coordinator **Christy Nieto @ (360) 820-8586**. Thank you for your support!

IN THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	1
Notice of Board Meeting	2
Summer Fruit Festival Volunteers	2
Financial Report.....	3
Summer Fruit Festival Schedule.....	4
Cherry Sampling Day.....	5
Principles of Slender Spindle Pruning.....	5
Donation Form.....	7
April 17 th , 2010 Retreat Meeting.....	8
Tree Fruit Research Program Status	8
Spotted Wing Drosophila	9
WWFRF MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM.....	11

WWFRF Financial Report: 5/1/10
By Walt Kropp, WWFRF Treasurer, Board Member

Non-Restricted Funds

Operating Expenses

Income

Membership Dues \$ 3003.00

Total Income \$ 3003.00

Expenses

Lobbyist Services \$ 2.00

Printing & Mailing \$ 509.97

Winter Field Day Expenses \$ 1400.98

Retreat (April) Costs \$ 78.85

Website \$ 211.95

Total Expenses \$ 2203.75

Difference \$ 799.25

Foundation Sponsored Research

Income

Donations \$ 2080.00

Expenses

Move Cherry Block \$ 1010.00

Difference \$ 1070.00

Fruit Garden Funds Summary

Income

Scionwood Sales \$ 1608.00

Interest \$ 20.33

WWFRF Fruitbooth \$ 644.25

Total Income \$ 2272.59

Expenses

Fruit Garden Expenses \$ 2382.76

Fruitbooth Expenses \$ 579.00

Printing and Mailing \$ 286.89

Rootstock Cost \$ 196.00

Video Costs \$ 150.00

Total Expenses \$ 3594.65

Difference \$ -1322.06

Current Funds

Non-Restricted \$ 5783.82
(Operating plus research)

Fruit Garden \$ 39478.53

Total \$ 45262.35

Totals

Total Income (All Categories) \$ 7355.59

All Expenses (All Categories) \$ 6868.40

Difference \$ 487.19

All donations to WWFRF, unless otherwise designated, will be applied to foundation sponsored research.

Volunteer in the Fruit Garden!

Volunteering in the Fruit Garden is a great chance to meet new friends and learn more about growing fruit. The Fruit Garden volunteers are learning about installing drip irrigation in this picture. To volunteer contact Tom Wake at:

thomas.wake@att.net



Summer Fruit Festival / Unusual Fruit



August 28, 2010

Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation
in cooperation with

Washington State University,

Northwest Washington Research and Extension Center

16650 State Route 536, Mount Vernon, WA 98273



8:30 – 4:00	Entrance east	- Registration - All members & non-members must register and pay (if membership is not up-to-date)
8:30 - 1:00	Outside west	- Sampling: Figs, Plum & Unusual Fruits
9:00 - 4:00	Entrance east	- Information Booths: WWFRF "Store", Beekeeping, Beat the Heat, Master Gardeners, Charlies Green house, Edible Seattle, Raintree
9:00 – 9:30	Auditorium	- Kiwis- Bob Glazeman
9:30 - 10:00	Auditorium	- Figs - Bob Glazeman
9:30 – 10:30	Fruit Garden	- Small Fruits Tour – Dianne Hall
10:00 - 10:30	Auditorium	- Fig Panel - Bob Glazeman, Sam Benowitz, Dr. Bob Norton, Denny McGaughy, Eric Simpson
10:30 - 12:00	Auditorium	- Spotted Wing Fruit Fly & Panel - Dr. Beverly Gerdeman, Dr. Hollis Spittler, Dave Pehling, Marilyn Tilbury
10:30 - 12:00	Fruit Garden	- General Fruit Garden Tour - De Arborgast
11:00 - 2:00	Entrance east	- Patty Pan Grill - Vegetarian gourmet, under trees
12:00 - 12:50	Auditorium	- Summer Pruning Video - Bob Norton
12:00 - 12:50	Fruit Garden	- Kiwis and Figs Tour- Bob Glazeman
12:00 - 12:50	Fruit Garden	- Summer Grafting – Bill Davis
12:00 - 12:50	MG Pavilion	- Selecting Fruit Trees for Homes - Bob Baines
12:30 - 2:00	Kitchen	- Sampling of Fig Sorbet & Kiwi Sorbets
1:00 - 1:50	Auditorium	- Cooking with Figs – Celebrity Chef - <i>Award winning pastry chef (Olympic Hotel, etc)</i>
1:00 - 1:50	Fruit Garden	- Summer Pruning Tour- Bob Norton
1:00 - 1:50	Fruit Garden	- Grapes Tour- Jim Taylor
1:00 - 1:50	MG Pavilion	- TBA
2:00 - 2:50	Auditorium	- Which Local Fruits area Chefs Want – Alex Corcoran, pulisher of Edible Seattle
2:00 - 2:50	Fruit Garden	- Espalier Tour – Walt Kropp
2:00 - 2:50	Fruit Garden	- Rootstocks and Irrigation Tour - Kim Siebert
2:00 - 2:50	MG Pavilion	- Preserving Fruits
3:00 - 3:50	Auditorium	- Anthracoze Control Video & Field Demonstration
3:00 - 3:50	Kitchen	- Preparing Figs - Devra Gartenstein owner Patty Pan Grill (cookbook signing following demo)
3:00 - 3:50	Fruit Garden	- Antique Apple Tour - Dr. Bob Norton
3:00 - 3:50	Fruit Garden	- General Fruit Garden Tour – Carol Butz
3:00 - 3:50	MG Pavilion	- TBA
12:00 - 4:00	Tasting	- Wine&Cider: Tulip Valley Vineyard (1 mile west on536)

Cherry Sampling Day!

July 10th, 2010 at 11:00 AM

Please arrive at 10:45 AM



See you there!

Principles of Slender Spindle Training

Excerpts from the lecture on Slender Spindle Training

by Tom Thornton

of Cloud Mountain Farm in Bellingham, WA.

Slender training techniques can be applied to the trees you have in your yard, whether it's a 100 year old umbrella tree or a central leader tree or an open vase shaped tree. The principles apply to any of the apples and pears you're going to grow.

One year wood – Never cut the one year wood of an established tree. The one year wood is the shiny wood at the end of the branch from a few inches to 2 feet or longer. When you cut the one year wood it causes branching, and most of the buds on that one year wood go dormant. You won't get many fruit spurs. But if let that one year wood grow a second year, you'll get plenty of fruiting spurs. Typically 80% of that one year wood, left unpruned, produces flower buds. It's one of those things where the less you do, the better results you're going to have.

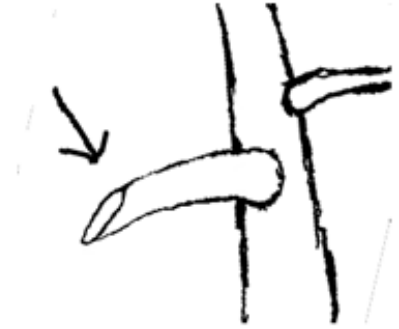
Branch angle – When branches point straight up you have auxin, a growth suppressant that trickles down into the lower parts of the branches and tree and suppresses the upright growth. Branches that are more horizontal will have less vigorous growth at the tips than more vertical branches because the auxin will be more evenly distributed along the branch, and more fruiting spurs will form. You want a 90° angle at the crotch on the branches because if they break they will fall cleanly off the trunk without splitting the trunk. When the new shoots are a couple inches long you can use a clothespins to hold them at that angle. I have found that with training instead of pruning in the first few years you get those wide angles.

Caliper – It's absolutely critical to have a progressively larger caliper as you go down the tree, so the fattest part of the trunk is at the bottom, the skinniest piece is at the top. Out every branch, the fattest piece is at the point of origin. You always want to have very thin shoots at the end of your branches and in the tops of the trees. If you manage those branches properly

you're going to have almost as much growth in the bottom of the tree as in the top. Don't let the branches in the top of the tree get thicker than the ones lower down. You have to cut them back with a flat cut (below) before they get too thick.

Branch height – Apical dominance means that the highest point in an apple or pear tree always grows the fastest. You can pull the tip of a weaker branch up to increase its vigor. The more vertical the position you pull it to, the more vigor it will have. If another branch is too strong you can pull it down to keep it in balance.

Flat or Dutch cut – For some reason when you leave an angled tail like this (see drawing), on the lower side you will get new shoots called “feathers” that will push out at a very good angle. You can make a flat cut on branches up to 3 inches in diameter. We keep cutting back to the same places over the years to keep renewing the branch so it doesn't get too large for the position it has on the tree. This helps to keep the vigor in the middle and top of the tree down so it doesn't overwhelm the bottom of the tree. Dutch or flat cuts work about 70% of the time. If they don't grow the way you want you just keep cutting them until you get the branch you want. After the new branch grows, we bend it over to the horizontal with a tie and we don't do anything else to it until it produces fruit.



Feathers are weak branches. A feather is going to grow flatter (more horizontally), shorter and with a skinny tip, not a growth tip like you get on strong shoots. Feathers are what you want on your tree, not strong branches.

Winter training – When we want to keep a branch to a specific length, we cut into the two year old or older wood because it doesn't usually cause excessive growth like when you cut into one year wood. When you cut a branch you should cut to a bottom bud because then it will almost always grow at the same angle that the branch has. If you cut to a bud on the top of the branch it will grow somewhere between 30% and vertical. If you cut to a bud on the side sometimes it will just veer off to the side, sometimes it does a ninety. Everything that grows straight down we cut off. Everything that grows straight up you cut off. Anything that grows at an angle and is shorter than 8 inches we leave on.

Summer training - If you bend vigorous new branches down in the summer you can keep them from becoming too vigorous and having to cut them off to keep the tree under control. You want to keep them under control and let them fruit without getting too vigorous. If you have to cut them you are cutting off the apples that would be there in 18 months.

This is the key here, you bend the branches down with stretch ties one year while they form buds, then you tie them up to the post the next year to support the branches while they fruit. Sometimes a branch doesn't get pulled down enough and the growth is somewhat vigorous but if it has fruit buds on it the weight of the fruit will pull the branch into place. But some varieties, especially spur types, can't be bent over because the fruit will be too small. Alkemene is an example of this and needs to have branches at a more upright angle.

Once you get up in the top third of the tree, four year old branches are going to be old. **Year one:** you're going to bend them, **year two:** they're going to spur up, **year three:** they're going to fruit, **year four:** they're going to fruit, and then they're removed with a flat cut to begin the process over again. The exceptions will be little twigs growing off the sides of the leader, they are spurs and they will just bear fruit and bear and bear and bear. **The first year:** you get one bud on a spur, **the second year:** you get one or two, and pretty soon you have five or six clusters. So as long as you thin them every year to keep a few of them on each of these spurs as resting buds and the others are fruiting you can have fruit coming off of those places for years.

Finally, apples and pears are trained by the same basic principles. The difference with pears is they grow in a more upright pattern. Their growth wants to “push” (very vigorous new growth). You're almost forced to cut into the one year wood because it is so vigorous. In the highly invigorating soils in our area I find them to be very vigorous on even the most dwarfing rootstocks. So we have started to grow our pears as open centers where we'll have 2 or 3 main leaders and then bend everything down to dissipate the vigor of the tree.

PLEASE SEND YOUR DONATION ALONG WITH THIS FORM

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
- To help with Summer Fruit Festival
- On sampling and field days
- By doing work that can be done from my home

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.

Credit cards accepted!

Here's how to donate to WWFRF or renew your membership through Network for Good:

- 1) Go to www.networkforgood.org (we now 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 acknowledgment of your donation by email.

The Membership and Board meetings from March 6, 2010 are posted on the web site.

WWFRF Retreat Meeting

April 17, 2010 10am – 4:00pm

Held at NWREC, Mount Vernon in the Treehouse.

Board members present: Kristan Johnson, Bill Davis, Kim Siebert, Rachel Petrich, Walter Kropp, Shirley Kropp, Bob Baines, Christy Nieto, Jay Scott.

Other WWFRF members present: Karen Todd, De Arbogast

Special Guest: Steve Jones

New board member – Kristan introduced Bob Baines, an arborist who has experience being a mediator between the Parks Department and the public. Kristan motioned that Bob fill Scott Terrell's position on the BOD, since Scott is unable to fill the position. Seconded by Rachel. Passed. Bob will be our liaison with STFS and City Fruit.

Treasurer's Report – Walt - Walt passed out copies of the financial report for the year up to 4/1/10. After some discussion Rachel motioned that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Bill seconded. Passed.

Change in Bylaws - Shirley suggested that a change be made in the language of the bylaws in Section 9 adding an account review committee consisting of members as an alternative to having an audit done each year. Due to constraints of time at the meeting, this issue will be explored and voted on by email.

Sample the Cherry Harvest Day – Shirley moved that we allocate \$100 to have Gary Moulton give a presentation on the Sample the Cherry Harvest Day. Seconded by Bill. Passed

Signs – Shirley moved that the board authorize an inter-fund loan from the Fruit Garden Fund to the Non-Restricted Fund of up to \$1200 for the purpose of event signage. The loan will be paid out of memberships received before the end of 2010 Seconded by Christy. Passed.

Membership – Christy – We have 2454 names in the data base. 196 currently paid. We received 60 new or renewal memberships at the Winter Field Day in March. There are about 130 members who's memberships were due in the last 6 months who have not renewed to whom we should send renewal reminder emails.

Endowment Proposal – Kristan appointed the following people to a committee to work on an endowment program to begin by around October, 2010: Shirley, Walt, Rachel, maybe Karen and Scott Terrell.

Summer Fruit Festival – A goal we can try to reach is to double the attendance to 300 by advertising more this year.

Bob's Idea – WWFRF is a fruit tree education program that has an historic orchard; an historic orchard with a research program behind it.

WWFRF Current Tree Fruit Research Program Status - April 3, 2010

Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation is an all volunteer organization which was founded 18 years ago to support Tree Fruit Research at the Washington State University research center in Mount Vernon. We have expanded our mission to include educational outreach which includes a 7 acre Fruit Display Garden whose activities are separately financed. Many of the fruit varieties that we covet today such as *Jonagold*, *Akane*, *Karmijn De Sonnaville*, *Melrose*, *Spartan*, and *Honeycrisp* apples; *Puget Gold* apricots; *Frost* peaches; Asian pears; *Orcas*, *Rescue*, *Conference*, *Highland* and European pears, *Seneca*, *Beauty*, *Methley*, *Shiro*, and *Mirabelle* plums; and *Lapins*, *Sweetheart*, *Angela*, *Hardy Giant*, and *Heartland* cherries; etc. were introduced to Western Washington through this program.

WWFRF has initiated research and education into technical areas beyond fruit variety selection, as with the following recent projects: Apple Anthracnose Control, Vole Control, and currently Spotted Wing Drosophila control. A presentation, panel discussion and handouts will be featured in this year's **August 28 Summer Fruit Festival**.

At this time, **WWFRF** is converting from its past WSU billing procedures whereby **WWFRF** paid for work after the work was completed (a billing cycle that was established 18 years ago with WSU) to the standard WSU billing procedure whereby work is paid for in advance. This places **WWFRF** in a very challenging financial situation this year. In addition to \$8,600 for 2008 expenses and \$8,600 for 2009, **WWFRF** needs to pay current research costs estimated at \$3,500 for 2010. The 2010 expenses cover research for the new **Cherry** "lines" of potential new cherry cultivars, and several very promising **Plums and Peaches** (including the Peach-Leaf-Curl-Resistant varieties). Thanks to both the North Olympic Fruit Club and the Vashon Fruit club for their donations towards the 2010 funding efforts! Taste some of the new varieties at the **WWFRF Sample the Cherry Harvest Day, July 10**.

Another issue that **WWFRF** became recently engaged in was responding to a 'call to arms' email from Dean Bernardo on Feb 3 regarding the threat to the \$26 million in state funding for WSU research, primarily agricultural research, possibly leading to closure of all four of WSU agricultural research and extension centers around the state. At a **WWFRF** Board meeting in February we voted to hire (pro-bono) the very supportive lobbyist Jim Simmons to address this issue in Olympia. While working on this issue, we found that the recent termination of the Fruit Horticulture Research and Extension program at WSU-Mount Vernon by the Pullman based Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture was not well received by legislators who believe that without a firm footing in the research community, our agricultural industries will be unable to deliver the jobs and revenue that currently look so promising for the region. These are high value and high value-added industries, and the critical research performed at Mt Vernon has been the cornerstone of their success in Western Washington.

We hope and expect that legislators, once they examine the issue closely, will conclude that cutting agricultural research would be both shortsighted and counterproductive as our state seeks to pull itself out of recession. **WWFRF** extends that sentiment to the WSU administration regarding agriculture in Western Washington. To this end, **WWFRF** President Kristan Johnson recently met with Dean Bernardo (Dean & Director of the WSU College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resource Sciences) along with Steve Jones (Director of WSU Mount Vernon NWREC). Discussion focused on establishing Ph.D positions at NWREC to support specific Western Washington agriculture industries: **Wine, Fruit-Wine, Cider, Tree Fruit Orchards, and Wholesale and Retail Nurseries**. This successful meeting was followed by a discussion with the visiting WSU President Elson S. Floyd. We are very optimistic and believe that we will be able to reestablish a Fruit Research Program at NWREC to support Western Washington's varied agricultural needs.

Thank you for your continued support through this period of uncertainty,
Kristan Johnson, President **WWFRF**

New Bug on the Block—SWD

From the Seattle Tree Fruit Society

We're all familiar with the little vinegar flies, *Drosophila obscura*, which inhabit our kitchens each summer when we're processing fruit. The summer of 2009 saw the invasion of a new, improved model. It's been given the common name Spotted Wing *Drosophila* (SWD), *Drosophila suzukii*. Rather than politely waiting for fruit to become overripe and start to ferment, this new model cheerfully oviposits in ripening fruit in the field. So far it is known to infest the soft fruits like strawberries, cherries, cane berries, peaches, figs, Asian pears, grapes and hardy kiwis.

Last year our raspberries, picked daily, were loaded with these small maggots. We resorted to picking the berries into small trays and chilling them in the fridge for a day, then carefully decanting them into new trays, leaving many little maggots behind, before giving any raspberries to neighbors.

The good news, if you're not squeamish, is that promptly harvested fruit is still perfectly good to eat—just don't dally. The bad news is that there is so much wild fruit about, such as Himalayan blackberry, that eradication of SWD will be impossible. This new insect is so successful that it is already supplanting the "old model" in our environment.

SWD is indigenous to Asia. In Japan it is known to have up to 13 generations a year and it prefers cool, moist climates like ours. It was only identified in California at the end of 2008. By the summer of 2009 it caused commercial loss of blueberries and peaches in Oregon and was found in Abbotsford, BC.

Dave Pehling of Snohomish Co. Extension has devised an economical SWD trap. Cut a U-shaped flap into two sides of any plastic pop or water bottle about half way up such that the flap will form a rain shield. Make a bait: mix a packet of yeast and 4 teaspoons sugar into 1 ½ cup water. Let it work for a day, then decant an inch or so into your bottle. Screw the cap over a length of string and hang the bottle near your fruit. Your supply of bait can be replenished by adding more water and sugar to the mix.

Change the solution in the traps weekly and bury the bugs. Please note that this bait will trap many other insects including beneficials like mason bees, honey bees and yellow jackets. You can wrap a 1/8" plastic mesh around the openings to help screen out the good guys. A 6 to 10 power hand lens will help you to identify the male SWDs. They have a small dark spot near the end of each wing. (The females do not have spotted wings.)

What to do? This summer we'll have to promptly harvest our soft fruit because, if infested, the SWD maggots will drastically shorten its "shelf life." We'll have to be equally vigilant about removing or burying all over ripe fruit of any kind to reduce breeding sites in our yard. Hang Dave's traps near developing fruit, the more traps the better. This insect prefers shade and moisture, so try to water when leaves can dry quickly.

Because of the potential impact on commercial growers, researchers are actively working the SWD problem and that will benefit home growers as well. It may be that GF-120, an attractant plus spinosad insecticide some use on cherry fruit flies can be modified to attract and kill SWD. For nonorganic growers, malathion has been shown to be effective. Perhaps an Asian parasitoid of SWD can be found and introduced to help control the population here but that would take time.

Two websites acting as clearing houses for local information on SWD are: www.berriesnw.com/ and <http://swd.hort.oregonstate.edu/>. For general information on vinegar flies see Wikipedia entries. Scientists have learned much about genetics by studying the closely related species *Drosophila melanogaster*.

Above all, don't get discouraged. New bugs and diseases are always invading us—and we learn to adapt!

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 Sample the Harvest Days, at no additional charge; other types of memberships are also available. Visit nwfruit.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 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 \$30.00/ Family (Parents with their minor children) at **each** event.

- **The Winter Field Day/ Open House** is the first Saturday of March, and consists of hands-on pruning, grafting and budding, talks on insects and pests, scion wood sale, and root stock sale.
- **The Summer Fruit Festival** is the 3rd Saturday of August and covers various topics, some of which may be best fruit varieties for our area, harvest techniques, preservation and storage, orchard mason bees, fertilizer and nutrition, home wine and cider production, cooking tips and of course, fruit tasting and Sample the Harvest from pre-picked fruit.

HARVEST DAYS are free to members, and open to non-members @ \$15/ Individual and \$30.00/ Family (One household only) at **each** event:

- **Sample the Harvest Days** are held in July and October. The following fruit is harvested in season: cherries, 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. You can also renew online. (see

credit cards on page 6)



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)

_____ \$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**

_____ \$30 FOR **FAMILY One-Day** OPEN HOUSE/FIELD DAY **ONLY** (Parents with their minor children)

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 THE **WINTER FIELD DAY** (FEBRUARY)

_____ TO HELP AT A **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 **SUMMER FRUIT FESTIVAL**

_____ TO HELP BY DOING WORK I CAN DO IN MY OWN HOME USING MY COMPUTER OR TELEPHONE

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!



Spotted Wing Drosophila!
Current research Status!
Don't forget the Summer Fruit Festival!
Cherry Sampling Day!

**Check out our wonderful newly revised website at: Nwfruit.org,
where you can see the color version of this newsletter**

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

**NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
SAM INC**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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