

WWFRF Board Meeting

November 21, 2009 10am – 3:00pm

Thank you to JoAnn Alidina who hosted this meeting and lunch.

Board members present: Kristan Johnson, Bill Davis, Tom Wake, Kim Siebert, JoAnn Alidina, Richard Fairfield, Rachel Petrich, Sam Benowitz

Other WWFRF members present: De Arbogast, Christy Nieto

DVD's: Sam will put the Anthracnose DVD in Raintree's catalog. We are working on making an antique apple DVD which will feature Dr. Norton. A DVD on how to prune old apple trees might be a good idea.

Christy Nieto is filling the general WWFRF volunteer coordinator position. She is working on a better method for collecting volunteer hours for hours worked outside of Fruit Garden volunteer hours. The Fruit Garden volunteer hours will be sent to her so that she will have records of total volunteer hours for WWFRF.

Archive Project: Ellen Cooley has been working to pull out the missing data from NWREC research that has not yet been digitized. The goal is to have a complete set of annual fruit research reports from 1991-present digitized. It was proposed to do a small publishing of the data by fruit type. This information is intended to be available on the existing NWREC website possibly in a search-able database. It is hoped that Jacky King's large collection of fruit slides in conjunction with Lori Bracken's fine photos will supplement this database.

Winter Open House Speaker: We hope to have a speaker on the Slender Spindle System – most productive fruit tree system. Kristan will contact potential speakers. De has agreed to start working on a slender spindle system handout for this event.

Information Dissemination Policy – WWFRF needs an Information Dissemination Policy to avert any future conflicts.

Motion made by Richard Fairfield, as follows:

1. We should include at the Fruit Booth a posting that all approved materials contain the WWFRF logo.
2. Anything offered in the Fruit Garden is to be vetted by WSU.
3. A Handout Committee will be established.
4. The Committee will provide to the board guidelines for non-WWFRF info to be sanctioned at Fruit Booths.

Seconded by Tom Wake and passed unanimously.

Moving Trees: A committee will meet to decide what trees to move in or out of garden.

Summer Fruit Festival

The Summer Fruit Festival committee is looking at September dates. Kristan has been talking to chefs they have an interest in figs which should be ripe by then. Board is looking for a Summer Fruit Festival Chair. Christy will consider the position.

Skagit Valley Festival of Farms: The Skagit Valley Festival of Farms is well established and has thousands of attendees. To participate a \$100 fee due by January 30th. It takes place the 1st weekend of October so it would involve having volunteers on back to back weekends. Tom W. motioned that we try to set up the booth at another farm the first year. Seconded by Rachel. Passed unanimously.

Fruit Research Program: Steve Jones sent letter regarding termination of NWREC and WWFRF had an emergency meeting on Thursday (11/19) to learn more about this situation. WSU has decided to eliminate the fruit horticulture position so now Gary Moulton is working on wheat but he is available to us part time (we will pay hourly for his services). There may be a new WA state Ph.D. Fruit research position. A committee is to be created to interview for this position and WWFRF will participate in this process if they decide to hire for this position. Steve Jones and Carol Miles strongly support the continuing work of WWFRF. A letter will be mailed to the membership about this situation as soon as possible.