



# Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation

February, 2017

## President's Message

*Kim Siebert, WWFRF President*

As the new season is beginning, a peek at last year reveals some changes for WWFRF.

We are in the process of adding NW Fruit as a trade name. NW Fruit is easier to say than WWFRF, in addition to giving an immediate idea of what the organization is about, and our full name is rather long.

We have switched to having only one paper newsletter per year – this one in February. The June and September newsletters are now sent by email. Newsletters are hand printed and mailed by the newsletter editor to people who do not have email, or to those who we are unable to deliver to the email listed in our records. As of the last emailing, we were not able to successfully email to about 20% of the members so please make sure your email is accepting mail from [wwfrf-membership@earthlink.net](mailto:wwfrf-membership@earthlink.net), which is the email we use for our newsletter mailings. Email address updates can be sent to [info@wwfrf.org](mailto:info@wwfrf.org).

We are working to increase the educational workshops we offer. Last July we had a workshop on the summer pruning of hardy kiwi, followed by the winter pruning of hardy kiwi in January this year. Everyone had a great time with Kiwibob and two of our vines got pruned in that hands-on workshop. Look in our June newsletter and our website for information about our coming workshop later this summer.

I look forward to seeing you in March for our Winter Field Day.

Kim Siebert

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# Volunteer for the Seattle Flower and Garden Show!

February 22-26, 2017

Come represent the Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation at the 2017 Northwest Flower and Garden Show in the convention center in Seattle. This is your opportunity to promote fruit growing to the general public from all over the Puget Sound region. There are currently shifts available on all days, but the spots fill up fast. The show is a lot of fun and **volunteers get free admission to the show for the entire day**. For more information, or to volunteer, please send an email to [info@wwfrf.org](mailto:info@wwfrf.org).

**Lee Reich will be speaking on Thursday and Friday at the Northwest Flower and Garden Show.**

## Volunteer!

As an all volunteer organization, we depend on our volunteers. What we are and what we can offer to the public is entirely dependent on having the volunteers to do the job. If you would like to help out by volunteering to help with one of the items below, send us an email at [info@wwfrf.org](mailto:info@wwfrf.org).

The **Fruit Garden** is a great place to volunteer. The regular volunteer days are on Thursdays from 9 am to noon, but if there is enough interest we could schedule occasional Saturday workdays.

We need volunteers to help at the **Winter Field Day**. Shifts are 1-2 hours and there are a variety of tasks. We also need people to help with registration at workshops.

Serving on the **Board of Directors**.

We need someone to help **update the Website**.



Volunteering in the Fruitbooth at the Winter Field Day. *Photo Bob Baines*

### Rootstocks available at the Winter Field Day

Initially there will be a limit of 4 rootstocks of each variety per person. Later in the afternoon you may buy more of a particular variety after everyone has had a chance to buy some. Available varieties are:

Apple, from smallest to largest: EMLA 27, BUDAGOVSKY 9, EMLA 26, EMLA 7, MM 111

Plum: MARIANNA 2624, KRYMSK 1

Pear: OHxF 333, [OHXF 97](#), QUINCE BA29C (much more dwarfing than OHxF 333, but you must graft an interstem (Comice works well) for many European pears).

Cherry: KRYMSK 5

# Winter Field Day / Open House: March 4, 2017

**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

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>8:30 AM and after:</b> | <b>Registration—All members &amp; non-members must first register &amp; pay</b><br><br><i>Admission Free for WWFRF Members: Included in annual dues</i><br><i>Admission Fee for Non-Members: \$15.00/ Individual; \$30.00/ Family</i><br><i>(Parents with non-adult children only); Caregivers free admission with paid client</i><br><br><b><u>West Room</u></b> |
| <b>8:30 – 1:00 PM</b>     | <b>Rootstock and Scionwood Sales</b>  |
| <b>9:00 – 1:30 PM</b>     | <b>Grafting of Purchased Scions &amp; Rootstock)</b>  |
|                           | <b><u>Lectures and Panels</u></b><br>(Held in the Auditorium):  |
| <b>9:00 – 9:10 AM</b>     | <b>Welcome (Kristan Johnson)</b>  |
| <b>9:15 – 9:55 AM</b>     | <b>Organic Spotted Wing Drosophila Control and Status of Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (Bev Gerdeman)</b>  |
| <b>10:00 – 10:55 AM</b>   | <b>Historic Northwest Pear trees / USDA Pear &amp; Quince (Joseph Postman)</b>  |
| <b>11:00 – 11:05 AM</b>   | <b>Update of WWFRF accomplishments &amp; plans (Kristan Johnson)</b>  |
| <b>11:05 – 11:55 AM</b>   | <b>Panel: “Best Pears for the Pacific Northwest” (Joseph Postman, Dr. Robert Norton, Sam Benowitz, Jacky King, Gary Moulton, Jim Gerlach, moderated by Kristan Johnson.)</b>  |
| <b>1:30 – 2:25 PM</b>     | <b>Fruit Preservation &amp; Storage (<u>Vivian Smallwood</u>)</b>   |
|                           | <b><u>Workshops</u></b> (Held in WSU classroom)   |
| <b>11:00 – 12:00 PM</b>   | <b>Bench Grafting (Greg Giuliani)</b>   |
| <b>1:30 – 2:20 PM</b>     | <b>Growing Asian Pears for Making Perry Cider (Jim Gerlach)</b>   |
|                           | <b><u>Lunch and Social Time</u></b><br>12:00 – 12:30 PM, Auditorium (Please bring your own lunch & beverage)  |
|                           | <b><u>Annual Business Meeting</u></b><br>12:30 – 1:15 PM, Auditorium (Election of Board Members)<br>Followed by the Board Meeting to elect officers   |
|                           | <b><u>Demonstrations in the Fruit Garden</u></b>  |
| <b>12:30 – 1:30 PM</b>    | <b>Fruit Garden Tour (Tom Wake)</b>   |
| <b>1:30 – 2:20 PM</b>     | <b>Pruning Pears (Gary Moulton)</b>   |
| <b>2:30 – 3:20 PM</b>     | <b>Pears in the Fruit Garden Tour (Joseph Postman)</b>  |

## Scion wood available at the Winter Field Day

### APPLE

Akane  
Alkmene  
Arkansas Black  
Ashmead's Kernel  
Ben Davis  
Beni Shogun  
Blue Pearmain  
Braeburn, Hillwell  
Egremont Russet  
Elstar, Daliest  
Esopus Spitzenberg  
Fall Pippin  
Golden Russet  
Grand Alexander  
Gravenstein  
Hatsuaki  
Honeycrisp  
Jonagold  
Jonagold, DeCoster  
Karmijn de Sonnaville  
King, Tompkins  
Liberty  
Melrose  
Mother  
Newtown Pippin  
Northern Spy  
Pristine

Roxbury Russet  
Rubinette  
Silken  
Spartan  
Tsugaru, Homei  
Twenty Ounce  
White Winter Pearmain  
Wagener  
Wealthy  
Westfield S-no-F  
Winesap  
Winter Banana  
Wolf River  
Yellow Bellflower

### QUINCE

Aromatnaya

### PEAR

Bosc  
Clapp's Favorite  
Comice  
Concorde  
Conference  
Orcas  
Spalding  
Starkrimson  
Taylor's Gold

### ASIAN PEAR

Chojuro  
Hamese  
Ichiban Nashi  
Mishirasu  
Shinseiki

### CHERRY

Angela  
Bing  
Danube  
Hartland  
Hudson  
Kristin  
Lapins  
Nugent  
Rainier  
Scarletta  
Schneider  
Surefire

### PLUM

Methley  
Seneca  
Early Laxton  
Victory  
Imperial Epineuse  
Beauty  
Obilnaja  
Geneva Mirabelle  
Shiro  
Coe's Golden Drop

## Fruit Garden update 2017:

Things have been really coming along in the Fruit Garden this past year!

Our most challenging project was the renovation of the blueberries (heavy paper mulch & 4" of sawdust) to address the mummy-berry and some weed issues. It seems that our efforts were successful, as no mummy-berries were observed this year. Thanks so much to the volunteer crew who braved the elements to get it all applied.



*Photo by Scott Terrell*

Dennis Davenport has stepped up to lead the effort in mitigating the multitude of pests and diseases in the Fruit Garden, thanks to him and the rest of the Fruit Garden Spray Committee for working on this endless task.

The new Tart Cherry Trial Plot was planted out and drip irrigation was installed to it and the neighboring new pears and Sea Buckthorn. Thanks to Richard Fairfield for taking on the refurbishment of the irrigation system.

We continue to collect "Keeper" pear varieties, and have some very unusual and even unique varieties thanks to Ed Suij's resources and Bill Davis's grafting skills.

Ned Garvey has been developing the new nursery, what a vast improvement! We hope to make good use of our first crop of "Stooling" M-27 & Bud-9 rootstocks he's been raising, and plan to graft them with *Karmijn De Sonnaville* apple scions to create our first display of a **very-dwarf espalier**. We intend to do research toward finding an easier growing method for mitigating pests and diseases. One method that we will be implementing is that of keeping the trees small enough to be very easily accessed; these trees might subsequently get covered by fine screening. We are also going to apply screening this year to the existing row of mature *Karmijn De Sonnaville* apple trees, employing various screening methods to compare their effectiveness.

The Fruit Garden signs have been such a success that we are now planning to introduce some additional signs, including several detailing the life-cycles of various pests and diseases. If you would like to help research and develop these signs, please contact me or Tom Wake.

Finally, if you haven't yet taken the **40 Points of Interest Tour** within the Fruit Garden (using the colorful trifold tour map), please take the time to enjoy this unique and informative walk (bring visiting friends!) and let us know what you think.

I hope to see you there soon,  
Kristan Johnson



# The Board of Directors

Are you interested volunteering to help direct the activities of WWFRF? Consider serving on the Board of Directors.

The board of directors of this all volunteer organization makes the decisions about how our organization is run. By serving on the board of directors you are an advocate for our mission, ensuring prudent use of the nonprofit's assets, and looking ahead to plan for the future.

We have 3-4 board meetings a year held in person in Seattle, Mount Vernon or elsewhere. Additionally, 1 or 2 telephone conference meetings are held when critical discussion and decisions are needed.

A director serves for a term of 2 years starting at the Winter Field Day when elections are held. A director is expected to serve on at least one committee and to attend as many of the board meetings as possible since they are usually planned well in advance. If necessary, participation by phone can often be arranged. Any director can come up with ideas for projects, and other ways to help the organization, and present them at the board meetings for discussion and adoption.

Email [info@wwfrf.org](mailto:info@wwfrf.org) for more information or contact board members before the Winter Field Day for more information.



**The Winter Field Day is the perfect place to learn what to do about pear scab.**

**WWFRF would like to thank our commercial members.**

BeezNeez - [www.beezneezapiary.com](http://www.beezneezapiary.com)

Northwoods/One Green World - [www.onegreenworld.com](http://www.onegreenworld.com)

Raintree nursery - [www.raintreenursery.com](http://www.raintreenursery.com)

Sonshine Tree Care - [www.sonshinetreecare.com](http://www.sonshinetreecare.com)

# The Challenges of Growing Great Fruit in the Pacific Northwest

by Kristan Johnson

*“I’ve concluded that in order to grow fruit trees with even moderate success in the Pacific NW, while attempting to manage the insects and diseases impacting them, the smaller that you can grow them, the better. However, we don’t have a lot of the problems that besiege other parts of the country when growing fruit.” Bill Davis, fruit enthusiast.*

Thirty years ago, some of the most serious diseases we were dealing with were scab and mildew on apples and pears. WSU trials (with WWFRF support) resulted in selecting some of the best and most disease resistant varieties to grow here. But we now have many additional diseases affecting fruit growing in our region, with more pests and diseases arriving every year. Mitigating fruit disease may mean having “homeowners” grow the smallest trees possible (using the most dwarfing rootstock), and pruning them in ways that allow for unobstructed access to each piece of fruit, leaf, and section of bark (i.e. espalier).

Eventually the fruit grower might have to seasonally encapsulate the trees with screening as the best form of pest control. We can also cut out diseased areas, bag individual fruits, and apply sticky traps. Chemical resources are often limited for backyard uses.

Many times I have been asked: “What is a good-tasting cultivar that a beginner can successfully grow that will produce a good crop most years?” We have created a new chart that we are calling **Reliable Fruit Varieties** to increase the success for “average homeowners” who grow their own fruit. The idea is that these varieties should do well given normal care of some watering, thinning, and pruning. Below is a list of the many pests and diseases that are besieging our local fruits. The problems underlined are more recent problems.

- **Apples:** apple maggot, codling moth, brown marmorated stink bug, apple anthracnose (seems more virulent), apple scab, powdery mildew, apple ermine moth. Solutions: footies.
- **Pears:** pear trellis rust, codling moth, brown marmorated stink bug, pear scab, powdery mildew. Solutions: apply footies.
- **Asian Pears:** pear trellis rust, codling moth, brown marmorated stink bug, very susceptible to bacterial canker (*Pseudomonas* infection), so avoid pruning during rainy periods.
- **Plums:** SWD, brown marmorated stink bug, birds, yellow jackets, aphids, brown rot, blossom rot, black knot, bacterial canker, gumosis, witches broom (prunes). Solutions: Methley plum is unusual in that it can be picked “green” and then allowed to ripen in a protected environment.
- **Cherries:** cherry tortrix, SWD, brown marmorated stink bug, birds, brown rot, blossom rot, gumosis, bacterial canker, coryneum blight. Solutions: Earlier cherries are less affected by SWD. Tart (pie) cherries much less susceptible to rain cracking and rot than sweet cherries, and trees are generally more resistant to diseases such as bacterial canker.
- **Peaches:** brown marmorated stink bug, leaf curl, coryneum blight, bacterial canker, gumosis, brown rot. Solutions: select peach-leaf-curl resistant varieties.
- **Apricots:** brown marmorated stink bug, early frost, brown rot, bacterial canker, gumosis, coryneum blight. May produce a good crop only about one year in three.

P=Productive, F=Good flavor, S=Scab resistant, K=Keeper, C=Cooking, L=Large, O=Ornamental, R=Resists Cracking, D=Canker Resistant, E=Early, SF=Self Fertile, T=Triploid

| <b>Apples:</b>          |             | <b>Cherries:</b>            |              | <b>Quince:</b>          |              |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Akane</i>            | P,F,S       | <i>Early Burlat</i>         | P,R,D,E      | <i>Aromatnaya</i>       | F,C,R,SF     |
| <i>Ashmead's Kernel</i> | F,S,K,C,T   | <i>Hartland</i>             | P,F,L,R      | <i>Limon</i>            | F,K,C,R,E,SF |
| <i>Belle de Boskoop</i> | P,F,S,K,C,T | <i>Lapins</i>               | P,F,L,R,SF   | <b>Persimmons:</b>      |              |
| <i>Belmac</i>           | P,F,S,K     | <i>Vandalay</i>             | P,F,S,E,SF   | <i>Saijo Asian</i>      | F,C,SF       |
| <i>Bramley</i>          | P,S,K,C,L,T | <i>White Gold</i>           | P,F,L,R,D,SF | <i>Great Wall Asian</i> | P,F,C,SF     |
| <i>Brown Russet</i>     | S,F,K       | <b>Tart Cherries:</b>       |              | <b>Plums:</b>           |              |
| <i>Cherry Cox</i>       | P,F         | <i>Montmorency</i>          | P,F,R,D,SF   | <i>Early Laxton</i>     | P,C,E        |
| <i>Dayton</i>           | P,F,S,K,L   | <i>Surefire</i>             | P,F,R,SF     | <i>Mirabelle</i>        | P,F          |
| <i>Enterprise</i>       | P,S,K       | <b>Pears:</b>               |              | <i>Mt. Royal</i>        | P,SF         |
| <i>Gravenstein</i>      | F,C,L,T     | <i>Conference</i>           | P,F,K,C      | <i>Purple Gage</i>      | P,F,SF       |
| <i>Liberty</i>          | P,F,S       | <i>Comice</i>               | F,K,SF       | <i>Schoolhouse</i>      | P,F,L        |
| <i>Pristine</i>         | P,F,S,C,O,E | <i>Highland</i>             | P,F,K        | <i>Sehome Italian</i>   | P,F,C,SF     |
| <i>Spartan</i>          | P,F,S,L     | <i>Orcas</i>                | P,S,L        | <i>Victoria</i>         | P,F,SF       |
| <i>Williams Pride</i>   | P,F         | <i>Rescue</i>               | P,S,C,L      | <b>Asian Plums:</b>     |              |
| <b>Columnar Apples:</b> |             | <i>Stutgarter Gishirtle</i> | P,F,E        | <i>Beauty</i>           | F,O,R,E,SF   |
| <i>North Pole</i>       | O           | <b>Asian Pears:</b>         |              | <i>Methley (hybrid)</i> | P,F,SF       |
| <b>Cider Apples:</b>    |             | <i>Chojuro</i>              | P,F,K        | <i>Hollywood</i>        | F,O,SF       |
| <i>Kingston Black</i>   | P           | <i>Kikisui</i>              | P,F,L        | <i>Shiro</i>            | P,F,L,SF     |
| <b>Crab Apples:</b>     |             | <i>Mishirasu</i>            | P,F,L        | <b>Fig:</b>             |              |
| <i>Centennial</i>       | F,S,C,L     | <i>Shinseiki</i>            | P,F,E        | <i>Desert king</i>      | P,SF         |
| <i>Puget Spice</i>      | P,F,S       | <i>Yoinashi</i>             | P,F          | <b>Peach:</b>           |              |
|                         |             |                             |              | <i>Frost</i>            | SF           |



**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: [NWfruit.org](http://NWfruit.org) and click on support.**

Please designate my monetary gift toward:     \_\_\_Where it is needed most!  
   \_\_\_Fruit Garden  
   \_\_\_WSU sponsored research  
   \_\_\_Sampling and Field Days

I would like to volunteer!                             \_\_\_In the Display Garden  
   \_\_\_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:     **WWFRF**  
  C/O John Valentine  
  811 North 1 ST  
  Tacoma, WA 98403-2013

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



Kiwibob teaches at our  
hands-on workshop.

**Winter Pruning of Hardy Kiwis**

*Photo by Scott Terrell*

**WWFRF Board Meeting**  
**November 5, 2016**  
**10 am – noon**  
**Shoreline Library**  
**Seattle**

Board members attending: Kim, John, Jay, Randy, Bob, Mike  
Board members online: Sam, Kristan, Ira, Adam

A quorum was present for the entire meeting.

**Budget** – The Budget for 2017 was reviewed and amended. Passed as amended unanimously.

**Winter Field Day** – Mike volunteered to be the Event Coordinator, Randy volunteered to be his assistant. The leaders for most of the areas are already in place.

**Mission statement** – Some time was spent reviewing the mission and vision statements, along with goals. The plan is to update over a period of several meetings.

**Fruit Garden Spray Plan** – Randy is now on the committee and will research codling moth control.

**Monthly educational events** – Randy will help with planning.

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**March 4th General Membership meeting agenda**  
*Followed by the Board meeting*

**12:30 – Financial Report – Mike Ewanciw**  
**12:40 – Report from the Fruit Garden Committee**  
**12:50 – Other Committee Reports (membership)**  
**1:00 –1:15 – Nomination and vote for board members**

**Board Meeting**

**1:20 – Nomination of Officers – Vote**

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**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)



The pear espalier in December



## Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation (NW Fruit) Membership Form

Please check one box ONLY: ☐ Renewal ☐ New Member

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 9-DIGIT ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check all applicable lines to designate type of membership and/or extra donation:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 FOR ANNUAL **INDIVIDUAL** MEMBERSHIP *(One person only)*

\_\_\_\_\_ \$40 FOR ANNUAL **FAMILY** MEMBERSHIP *(Parents with their minor children)*

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 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 ☐ **GENERAL FUND** ☐ **FRUIT GARDEN**

I would like to volunteer to help as follows (please check all applicable lines):

\_\_\_\_\_ FIELD WORK IN THE **WWFRF FRUIT DISPLAY GARDEN** *(usually held every Thursday from 9am-12noon; Jan-Nov.)*

\_\_\_\_\_ HELP AT THE **WINTER FIELD DAY** *(1st Saturday in March)*

\_\_\_\_\_ **NORTHWEST FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW** in Seattle *(usually held in February every year)*

\_\_\_\_\_ **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 John Valentine, Membership  
811 North 1 st  
Tacoma, WA 98403-2013**

**Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation (NW Fruit)**  
C/O John Valentine  
811 North 1 ST  
Tacoma, WA 98403-2013

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



**Winter Field Day!**  
**Notes from the Fruit Garden!**  
**Pacific Northwest Challenges!**

**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.**