



Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation

September, 2017

President's Message

Walking through the Fruit Garden a few days ago (with my camera) I was excited to see the fruit growing and maturing. A few years ago the espaliered shipova tree only had a few fruit on it, but this year it has much more fruit. The persimmons are not very noticeable now when



they are green, but they will make a wonderful display in late October. The mislabeled Brown Turkey fig (probably actually a Brunswick, according to Kiwibob, our local fig expert) had one ripe fig hanging temptingly. I picked it for the Fruit Garden volunteers to cut up to taste during their break at 10:30 am.

There is a bumper crop coming along so please join us in the Fruit Garden on Saturday October 14th for our Apple and Pear Harvest Day with cider tasting and fruit sampling of apples, pears and hardy kiwi.

Kim Siebert, NW Fruit President

Apple and Pear Day October 14th!

Don't miss it!

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Hardy kiwis doing well after kiwi pruning workshops

Our kiwis had been sadly neglected, but the summer pruning workshop last year and the winter pruning workshop this January have improved them a great deal.

Sometimes after heavy pruning the fruiting crop is reduced but we still have a good crop on our most easterly kiwi and a lesser crop on the others. The fuzzy kiwi has much larger fruit this year. A lack of pruning leads to small fruit.

The video from the summer pruning workshop is on our website on the kiwi page of the Fruit Garden Tour. The winter pruning video will be added by the end of this year. Winter pruning of kiwis should be done about mid January.



An abundant hardy kiwi crop in spite of heavy pruning.

Apple and Pear Day

Saturday, October 14th

11:00am – 1:00 pm

Sample apples and pears!

Sample ciders!

Pruning demonstration!



Codling moth control – “An experiment” part 1

By Dennis Davenport

This year, for the first time in several years, we treated the WWFRF garden for codling moths. This pest has negatively impacted the apples and pears in the garden in a big way for the last few years, and since the larvae from any one season produce cocoons and overwinter in the bark of the trees, the number of moths can increase each year if they are not treated. We applied pheromone mating disruptor rings in early May both last year and this year, but with limited effectiveness.

This year we treated the apple and pear trees with acetamiprid, which is recommended for use by home gardeners on the WSU Hortsense website. As part of our treatment, we sprayed only the east half of the row of gravensteins, leaving the west half of the gravensteins untreated. We ended up with 15 sprayed Gravenstein and 3 Karmijn trees, leaving the same number of each variety unsprayed.



Dennis Davenport examines fallen fruit from Gravenstein plot for codling moth damage.



Frass is a classic sign of codling moth damage. Same apple shown cut open on the right.



Since early August, I have been spending some time each week inspecting the fruit drops from these trees. Only 1 of 68 drops from the treated Gravenstein trees showed codling moth damage but more than 25% of about 200 drops from untreated trees had damaged fruit. Last September when we did not spray I picked three dozen Gravensteins and 28% had codling moth damage although they had no visible damage on the outside.

Look in the February, 2017 issue of our newsletter to see part 2 of this article.

A Tribute to the Fruit Garden Volunteers Part 1

Some of them are talkative and like to work in groups; others are quietly working away in some hidden spot. Some of them knew nothing about growing fruit when they started; some worked in university horticultural departments. All of them are vital to our beautiful Fruit Garden. These are the Fruit Garden Volunteers, the heart and soul of the Fruit Garden.



Peter Jackson is picking diseased leaves from pear trees.

Bill Davis helps a Garden visitor to identify an apple tree.



Richard Hallman teaching the Fruit Garden Volunteers about pruning espalier.





Kristan Johnson teaches some of the volunteers about pruning espalier.



The volunteers practice what they learned.



Fruit Garden volunteers Jay Scott and Richard Fairfield roll up the blueberry netting.

Our Volunteers for 2017 (hours through the end of July)

2-20 Hours

James Wiss
Mary Vincent
Eldon Vincent
Bob Baines
John Egbert
Carol Jacobson
Carol Butz
Ray Aliberti
Carla Aliberti
Laurie Jansen
Dan Vorhis
Emily Kutz
Ann Thompson

20-55 hours

De Arbogast
Bill Pierce
Peter Jackson
Simone Spiess
Laurie Dressler
Florence Simm
Jim Wagner
Janet Nevitt
Jean Longspaugh
John Quast

55-70 hours

Ned Garvey
Richard Fairfield
Jennifer Fairfield
Hazel Sittner
Dennis Davenport
Bill Davis

77 hours!

Larry Crum
Mike McWilliams

95 hours!

Tom Wake – our Fruit Garden Manager

Jay Scott

An incredible 114 hours!

Early Bird Volunteers

Special thanks to those who volunteered 15 or more hours during the chilly months of January through March.

Tom Wake	Mike McWilliams	Jay Scott	Hazel Sittner
Larry Crum	Ned Garvey	Richard Fairfield	Jennifer Fairfiled
De Arbogast	Bill Pierce	Bill Davis	Laurie Janzen

Volunteer in the Fruit Garden!

Fall is coming and there is still plenty to do in the Fruit Garden. Come on down Thursdays from 9 am to noon and join the Fruit Garden Volunteers. For more information email info@wwfrf.org .

To see the **Volunteer Video** go to the following link: [Volunteer Video](#)

See our February issue for more about our Volunteers.

Dust Devils in the Fruit Garden

By Jay Scott

It was the second time I experienced a dust devil at the fruit garden. Up on my ladder I was harvesting fruit. Birds had pecked a few plums already. They knew where to get the best sun ripened fruit. Things were calm and I barely noticed a gust of wind from behind. Then within seconds I was grasping the ladder as the wind came from all directions. That was interesting, I thought, as things quickly calmed down. I could observe the turbulence moving away now. I could see a 10' circle of grass swirling in a circular pattern. No telltale column of dust, just swirling grass moving toward the highway about as fast as a person can run.

The other devil also crept up from behind. A couple years ago a fruit garden volunteer and I were chatting about how to solve all the world's problems. Did not have time to grab my hat this time. By the time I reached for it my hat was 10' feet over my head, swirling like someone had given it a Frisbee toss before it dropped about 50' away.

WWFRF Board Meeting

June 3, 2017

4:00 pm – 5:51 pm

WSU Mt Vernon Research & Ext

Fruit Garden

Mt Vernon, WA

Board members attending: Bob Baines, Richard Hallman, JoeAnne Hilgart, Jay Scott, Kim Siebert, Tom Wake

Board members online: Sam Benowitz, Kristan Johnson, Ira Collins, Randy Lee

A quorum was present for the entire meeting (10 members present)

Minutes of last meeting (March 4, 2017) read and approved

Read : JoeAnne

Motion for approval : Bob Baines

Seconded : Richard Hallman

Outreach Committee Report – Bob Baines

Summer Event - It was decided to have a workshop on summer pruning of fruit trees and espalier on August 5th. Richard Hallman, Kristan Johnson, Randy Lee and Bill Pierce will work on the program for the event with Bob Baines heading the committee.

Geocache in the Fruit Garden

Jay Scott will research more about details

Vote of confidence unanimously passed

Meeting was adjourned 5:51pm WWFRF Board Meeting

New Fruit Pests and Diseases in Agricultural Resilience Plan

by Bill Pierce

The Snohomish Conservation District is drafting an Agricultural Resilience Plan (<http://snohomishcd.org/ag-resilience/>) for Snohomish County. Ideally, the plan will be used to direct resources that will help growers in Western Washington adapt to the changes brought about by climate change, increased population density, and development.

Since I joined WWFRF, a number of experienced fruit growers have remarked to me how many new pests and diseases are now present in our area. The conversation usually starts: "We never used to have to deal with...", and then often proceeds with a description of how the disease is believed to have gotten here and how it has become more widespread. Examples are Anthracnose and the Actinidia Yellow Leaf Spot for which Kiwi Bob (<https://sites.google.com/site/kiwifruitsalad2/>) has been gathering data.

As Northwest fruit growers, we have an opportunity to call attention to some of the relatively new pests

and diseases on the scene and their impacts on growing fruit in the region. I will serve as a collection point (soaringswallowfarm@gmail.com) for any data or anecdotal evidence you would like to provide on environmental-change-related pests and diseases and the kinds of tools you would like government to provide to help growers adapt. Brevity will help make the point more clearly. Thank you!

WWFRF would like to thank our commercial members.

Beez Neez - www.beezneezapiary.com

Sonshine Tree Care - www.sonshinetreecare.com

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 our website and click on *support-donate* to make a donation through PayPal.

Please designate my monetary gift toward: ☐ Where it is needed most!
☐ Fruit Display Garden
☐ Sampling and Field Days

I would like to volunteer! ☐ In the Fruit 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, Membership
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.

Credit cards accepted through PayPal! Just go to our website and click on *support-donate* to make a donation.



Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation 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; March-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

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Annual memberships cost \$25/year for Individuals and \$40/year per Family (Parents with their minor children). Membership entitles you to the newsletter, which has a snail mail version in February, and email only in June and September, 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 to download the membership form OR use the membership form found in this newsletter.

The **WWFRF Newsletter** is printed in February, and sent email in June and September with hard copies sent to members without email.

- **FIELD DAYS/ OPEN HOUSES and WORKSHOPS** 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) for 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.
- **Several workshop days** are offered each year, sometimes with fruit sampling, depending on the season.
- **The Apple and Pear Sample the Harvest Day** is usually held in October, but check your September newsletter for changes due to warm weather. Paid members and non-members are allowed to keep their portion of the harvested fruit.

In memory of Marlene Falkenbury

The trust of Marlene Falkenbury, who served on the Board of Directors of WWFRF for a number of years, has donated a \$5000 bequest to WWFRF.

Marlene was a dedicated member of WWFRF and of other fruit interest groups.

