



NW Fruit

September 2022

Press Release

from Scott Terrell

Imagine biting into an apple that was cultivated in England as far back as the 13th century.

The White Winter Pearmain is one of several fresh culinary delights that await those who show up for Northwest Fruit's Apple & Pear Day on October 8 in the NW Fruit demonstration orchard at the WSU Northwestern Research & Extension Center, west of Mount Vernon at 16650 SR 536.

The White Winter Pearmain is part of the antique apple collection in the inner oval of the orchard. Other varieties include the Esopus Spitzenburg, Egremont Russet, Fameuse and Newtown Pippin. Many of the antique apple trees have origins dating back to the 1700 and 1800s.

Elsewhere in the orchard, growing techniques such as espalier training will be in full display. Tall, slender columnar apple trees will be loaded with fruit in season.

The Fruit Garden is host to many other fruits that can be grown in the Pacific Northwest, including peaches, Asian and European plums and pears, Kiwi, currants, cherries and more. Many will have already ripened, thus out of season, but the growing techniques are still easily visible.

The Fruit Garden is maintained by a dedicated corps of Northwest Fruit volunteers who meet Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Saturday work sessions are also scheduled, every other week.



Anyone visiting during Apple and Pear Day is welcome to sign up for the volunteer days. It's the perfect way to learn and develop friendships with people who are interested in maintaining the edible landscape.

Admission free for NWF members, special One Day Pass available, details page 3. Members are encouraged to bring a friend — introduce them to NWF.

Thursday volunteer Bill McCord summer prunes the White Winter Pearmain apple tree September 1 in the Fruit Garden.

Photo from Scott Terrell

Apple & Pear Sample the Harvest Day

NW Fruit Garden of 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*

Enjoy a day of sampling fruits. Attend our small classes where you can ask questions and learn successful techniques. Talk with our volunteers who enjoy the work and the flavors from our large garden. Consider joining the Special Project committees.

- Activities**
- Registration begins at 10am. All members must hand stamp. Details p. 3.
 - Taste slices of specific apple and pear varieties, at the tasting tables.
 - Classes on growing and harvesting fruit will be given by NWF experts throughout the day. See the class schedule below.
 - Enjoy the continual tours of the orchard to see many of the hundreds of different types of fruits we grow.

Class Schedule

10:30 to 2pm — Tour the six-acre fruit garden with knowledgeable volunteers to see progress on many projects.

10:30 to 11:15 — Harvesting Apples & Pears: Bill Davis has learned about growing fruit in our region over 50 years. Learn how and when best to pick the fruit as Bill tells us about the many varieties we offer for tasting.

11:20 to Noon — Ideas from Overseas: Peter Reuckert grew up in Austria with many bush and tree fruits largely unknown to American gardeners. Let Peter introduce you to unusual fruits that thrive in our northwest climate, plus how to pick and preserve them.

12:05 to 12:35 pm — Hardy Kiwis: Learn from Richard Fairfield how to successfully grow beautiful kiwis. See how he constructed the kiwi trellis. We hope the kiwis will be ripe to eat.

12:40 to 1:25 — Antique Apple Varieties: Our orchard has many varieties of delicious “antique” apples. Larry Crum will tell you all about them as you visit the tasting tables.

1:30 to 2:15 — Graceful Espaliers: Tour with Bill Pierce and learn to select the right trees and how to establish and maintain them.

How To Find Your Membership Status

If the email by which you received this newsletter begins “Hello NW Fruit **Member**” then your membership is current through September 2022. You may need to update before October 8.

If the email begins “Hello NW Fruit **Friend**” then your membership is not current at present. Membership expires on the anniversary of the last payment.

Please Note: You can pay for membership at the event, but by paying it ahead of time Registration is simpler.

All purchases at the event require check or cash.

No credit cards. If you don't have checks be sure to bring cash.

Registration: • Begins at 10 am. All members must first register and hand stamp.

Admission: • **Free to NWF members.** Become a member by purchasing a \$25 yearly membership, \$40 for family membership, at event or preferably on our [website](#).

• For this event NWF will offer a \$15 One Day Membership at the event. We encourage members to bring a friend, neighbor or relative — Treat them to a One Day pass and introduce them to the NWF garden! *Cash or check, no creditcards.*

Weather: Rain or shine – Dress for the weather. If it rains classes will be under cover in the pavillion of the Discovery Garden next to the Fruit Garden. If we can, we will tramp around the orchard while we talk about fruit growing.

The fruit on a Wealthy antique apple tree is already showing its red color. The variety dates back to 1860 out of Minnesota. Photo from Scott Terrell



Managing Expectations for Apple & Pear Day

Readers may recall that Spring 2022 was rather cooler and wetter than typical. The resulting effects at the fruit garden bumped the normal synchronicities out of alignment as to what blooms when and which pollinators are ready to fluff the pollen where it is needed on time. We don't have the volume of fruit that has been available in prior years. Some trees set no fruit at all. For this reason the press release on page one was not sent far and wide to attract a big crowd for October 8. We still want to reach out to other gardening organizations and a wider public -- this continues to be a work in progress.

Nevertheless, Apple & Pear Day is a festive opportunity to see the garden, taste the fruit and reconnect with knowledgeable volunteers. Before October 8 volunteers will harvest from ladders the generous fruiting on taller trees. Bags or boxes of ladder-picked fruit will be available for members to take home.

Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation (NW Fruit)

Membership Form

Please check one box ONLY: ☐ Renewal ☐ New Member

DATE: _____

Name _____ Email address _____

Address _____ Phone # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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 at Name)

_____ \$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 (Thursdays 9am-12noon; Jan-Nov.)

_____ 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 as follows:**

NW Fruit (WWFRF)
C/O Kim Siebert
7904 56th DR NE
Marysville, WA 98270

Fruit Garden Report



Harrow's Delight Pear

The Fruit Garden approaches its harvest time with thanks to the volunteers for many hours of work. They have been busy pruning trees, shrubs and vines; trimming and pulling weeds; mowing, watering, repairing and maintaining the orchard's structures. As mentioned elsewhere, due to a cold and wet Spring, fruit set is below normal. Some varieties produced very little fruit while others, thankfully, did very well. There will be many fine varieties at the tasting tables but less of the ready access harvesting than we've offered in prior years.

We are seeing more sightings of hawks in the Garden, some even are using newly installed perches. With the increase of raptors we are hopeful there can be better control of voles, moles and rodents. The Fruit Garden Committee will continue to monitor and try several measures to control especially the vole population.

At the recent Fruit Garden Committee meeting the members decided on several disease resistant varieties of cherry trees to replant. Among the list are White Gold, Glacier, Cowiche, Vandelay, Starletta,

Fruit Garden Report, continued

Early Burlat, Kansas Sweet and Kristan. Getting the replacement trees ordered this Fall is a priority. In addition, the young apricot tree that died will be replanted with a Harglow or a Harcot variety.

The Pollinator/Beneficial Border of native plants is doing well and thanks to Hal Torrance for his effort for keeping it watered during our warm summer. New signs explaining pollination and native pollinators are being printed and should be installed by the Apple/Pear Day event.

Replacement of the blueberry irrigation hose is ongoing and should be complete by the end of October. All four rows will have above ground, supported, commercial quality hose. Thanks to our irrigation wizard, Richard Fairfield, for this installation and for maintaining the irrigation system of the orchard.

The Garden Committee agreed to dedicate the bench under the large walnut tree on the South fence to Kristan Johnson. It will have a plaque placed on it telling of Kristan and his dedication to the Fruit Garden. It was agreed there may be other dedications to Kristan's memory, to be decided at a later date.

We look forward to the Apple & Pear Day, Sampling the Harvest event, October 8th. Please come join us for a great occasion to hear interesting talks, sample some beautiful fruit and meet up with our many dedicated volunteers.

Hope to see you then.

Colleen Sanders
Fruit Garden Committee Chair

Two Weekly Work Parties – Seasonal Harvests

Thursdays 9 to 12, except in December, also

Saturdays 9 to 12, Sept 24, every other week thereafter

Note: NFW Membership is required for volunteering in the Fruit Garden.

Back by popular demand – An extra work day opportunity for aspiring volunteers who can't come on Thursdays. Dress for the weather and bring a small pair of hand pruners. Come help prepare for Apple & Pear day, then seasonal chores in weeks thereafter. Park in the parking lots on the North end of the Garden. These are great days for fun, friends, learning and the opportunity to serve your community. Contact Garden Manager Tom Wake at info@nwfruit.org

Find information about **Standing Committees** in our article on Volunteer Appreciation Day, Page 13.

Mark your calendar for Saturdays: September 24, October 8, 22 and on til further notice

* * * * *

Volunteers for October 8 will be appreciated – Please make contact soon with Tom Wake or Colleen Sanders for details, at info@nwfruit.org.

“Pruning is a Multi-Year Chess Game,” says he...

Before



After



Expert volunteer Bill Pierce provided a Pruning Workshop for NWF workers on September 10.

These are two different pear trees, but the principles are evident for opening up space for air, controlling height, planning the structure. It was a smokey day, you can tell by the golden glow.

Images courtesy of Hal Torrence

Benefits of Membership

Annual membership costs **\$25/year for Individuals** and **\$40/year per Family** (Parents with their minor children). Other categories of memberships are also available, including Donors, Sustainers, Commercial, etc. Visit nwfruit.org to download the membership form OR use the membership form found in this newsletter.

- **FIELD DAYS/ OPEN HOUSES and WORKSHOPS are free to members.** Membership ensures your inclusion in various emails about events and other news.
- Invitation to special events, such as Volunteer Appreciation Day, Committee Planning, plus all members are welcome to attend Board meetings.
- Opportunities to recognize and learn about disease and pests that are new within the last two years, as weather conditions change in Skagit Valley
- The Apple & Pear Sample-the-Harvest Day
- The Winter Field Day/Open House - lectures, demonstrations and sale of scion wood and rootstocks for apples and other fruit trees
- Several workshop days are offered each year, sometimes with fruit sampling, depending on the season.
- Open invitation to serve on committees in the garden and in administration
- Open participation in NWF Annual Membership Meeting in March — your opportunity to be elected to serve on the Board of Directors, to be involved with communications, strategic planning, and other administrative opportunities.

July 7th Potluck – NWF 30th Anniversary

A Good Time Was Had By All

Thank you to all of you who attended the 30th Anniversary of our organization. Following are notes from the discussion that day. There were interesting stories about sources for scions to be cultivated at the station in its early years. Sam Benowitz opened the discussion with panel members: Kim Siebert, Bob Baines, Tom Wake, Bill Davis and Jacky King.

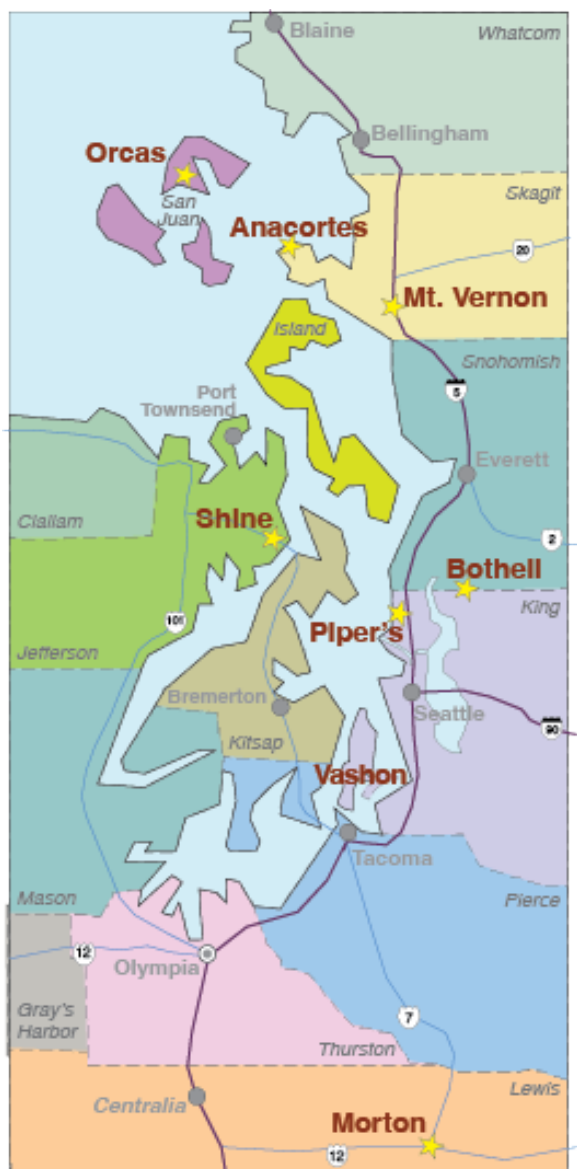
Jacky King told how the WSU research center began its regional fruit variety research between 1962-65, when **Dr. Bob Norton** came to be superintendent. The Research Station was working on raspberry, strawberry and blueberry projects. In 1975, WSU worked on grape trials, for table and wine grapes. Dr. Norton noticed that the apple varieties on sale here, while reliable in the east, were wrong here in the Pacific NW climate where we all observed so much scab susceptibility.

In 1979, when Jacky was hired, her first job was “hoeing strawberries,” and her second job was measuring raspberries. She got right into it and learned so much from Dr. Norton. **Gary Moulton** was hired in 1980. They began to scout for “native varieties” -- seedlings that were thriving in random locations in this region.

There was a seedling pear tree, now named **Orcas** pear, from a fence-row on Orcas Island. **Puget Gold** apricot was found by the ferry in Anacortes. They crossed a Prima with an Alkemene; that was origin of **Puget Spice** crab apple. Knox Nomura rescued a fine pear that Dr. Norton named **Rescue**. Also the **Frost** peach was found and introduced.

Bill Davis was a Naval officer, based in Bremerton. Came to the test orchards, met Jacky, Gary et al, volunteered on his time off from the Navy. He learned from Walt Lyon, “an old time grower” who had 5 acres in **Bothell** on 90th. That’s gone now, but another good source in those years was the historic **Piper Orchard** which has since been refurbished and maintained in Carkeek Park, Seattle.

The Bothell property came to belong to Walt’s grandson, who had big dogs. To collect scion wood for the WSU orchard, Bill used a back entrance that Walt had shown



★ Regional sources for climate hardy cultivars propagated at the WWFRF fruit garden

him where he could sneak in at night to avoid the dogs. They spent two months labelling trees there, lots of scionwood and root stocks came from there.

Bill Davis has devoted energy to help bring in funders. Sam added that Bill has taught thousands how to graft. Sam and Bob Baines talked about the 17 varieties of **Gravensteins**, in the orchard, the best Gravenstein collection perhaps in the nation.

Sam explained that in 1992 when Dr. Norton retired, Bill Davis, Jacky, Gary et al worried about the future of the fruit variety research. **Kim Siebert** recalled it was 1992 when the legal documentation for Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation (**WWFRF**) was completed. It took about two more years to get it all rolling. In ensuing years WWFRF raised about \$20,000 a year and had about 400 members. Sam and Kim recalled it was in 1996 that WSU offered about nine acres to Master Gardeners, Native Plant Society and WWFRF. Landscape architect Kristin Johnson made drawings for a set of graceful, utilitarian demo gardens. Today's WWFRF orchard is on six of those acres. (*Editor's note about names: In 2016 trade name NW Fruit was formalized for use on logos, publications and the web address, NWFruit.org.*)

We were offered the land if we could raise the money. Kim approached her father for a significant donation and he came through. It was his gift that provided the seed money for developing the demonstration fruit garden. Kim had been a member about two years when Sam asked her to join the board in 1997. NWF has a reliable operations budget, but donations have always been important for planning improvements.

Tom Wake joined the organization when he was still living in Seattle but had a retirement home in Blanchard. Tom has been garden manager since 2008. When Kristin was in his final days, Tom visited and made a promise to Kristin that he would make every effort to keep it going.

Bill McCord said that ten years ago De Arbogast gave a lecture on anthracnose. "That's when I volunteered and became known as 'the burner' for burning the anthracnose, catching it in its early stage."

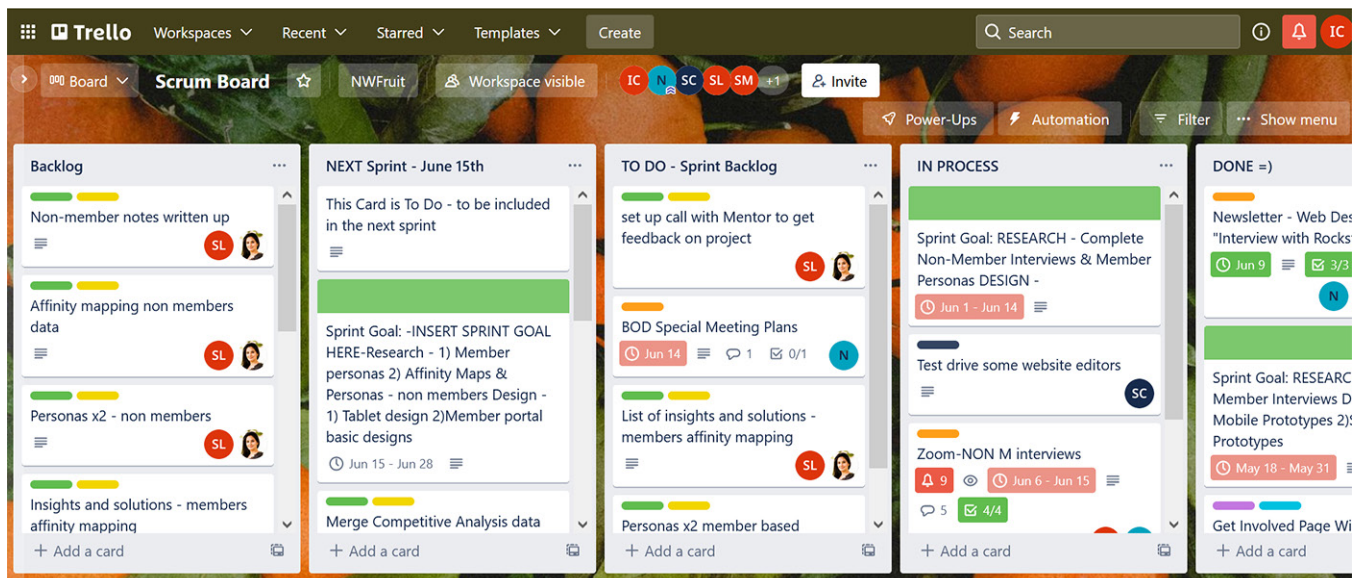
In conclusion there was general agreement about the value of the historic NWF orchard and the vibrant continuing projects. "Don't take it for granted!"

Laura W. Wilson
Newsletter Editor

***Thank You to
North Hill Resources***

4600 651 N. Hill Blvd, Burlington 98233
360-757-1866 • NorthHillResources.com

**For landscaping materials and
continuing support • Summer 2022**



NWFruit.org Website Update

Progress continues on the re-imagination and building of a new web site for NWFruit.org. Since our last update, several milestones have been reached.

We decided upon and purchased a non-profit software license for the new site software and will be transitioning from WordPress to Wix.

Our User Interface web designer, using Wix, has created a first-draft version of the new web site.

Our User Research Experience web researchers are on track to conduct user experience testing with a set of WWFRF members and non members in order to gather feedback on the initial web site iteration.

We want to thank our volunteer web development team for their dedicated work. We started this project back in late April 2022. Since then, all three have willingly and cheerfully carved out time in their busy professional and personal schedules to attend biweekly meetings and work weekends to bring our project to fruition. We're looking forward to our new site's launch in the not-too-distant future.

By Ira Collins, NW Fruit Board Member

Vignettes from the Garden

From Peach Committee >

Two of the leaf-curl resistant varieties are bearing well this year, Nanaimo and Oregon Curl-Free. In past taste tests, Nanaimo has rated very highly. The two Frost trees are also bearing well this year.

One of our trees was essentially dead early this summer, with only one leaf cluster high on one scaffold branch. Bill Davis suggested we cut the tree back severely in an attempt to invigorate it. Otherwise, we would remove the tree. We left the limb with the single leaf bunch and cut the entire rest of the tree off at about 3 feet. Bill thought we might get enough growth to provide material for bud grafting.

What a surprise — shock really! The top branch now has healthy growth and the trunk has put out an entire tree's worth of growth in just a couple of months. The tree is now shortened and very, very healthy. Best kind of news!

from Laurie Dressler, July 2022



< From Pollinators Committee

About an apple tree near the pollinator row, the Ashmead's Kernel: John Keefe and a buddy planted it about the same time we were working on standing-up the pollinator garden. Some of us involved on the pollinator project took an interest in this young tree since it was close by so we kept the tree watered and looked after. Richard recently installed irrigation and it appears to have moved past transplant stress and is becoming established.

I recently mentioned this tree in passing to another regular Thursday member who was quite surprised to learn of this new tree. Shows that we need to keep communications flowing!

fr Hal Torrence



Editor's note: The planting of the Ashmead's Kernel along with a Belmac and Jonagold were noted in the Fruit Garden Report in June newsletter. Lots going on in the garden!

Not all Fruit Trees Are Easy to Espalier

By Bill Pierce



Espalier: "The horticultural and ancient agricultural practice of controlling woody plant growth for the production of fruit, by pruning and tying branches to a frame."

Because espaliers form largely two dimensional trees, they can be an effective means for growing fruit when you have limited space. In the 18th century, espaliers were placed against south facing masonry walls to increase the heat units available to the fruit, allowing some species and varieties to be grown in more northern climates. Our Fruit Garden designer, the late Kristan Johnson, was especially pleased when author Lee Reich commented that the espaliers we maintain in the Fruit Garden are among the best on the West Coast.

Espaliers can be grown in many decorative shapes (Photo 1). However, espaliers are notoriously labor-intensive to maintain. They require dwarfing rootstocks (Bud 9 was Kristan's favorite) a trellis framework, careful training over a period of at least 5 years, and multiple prunings per year to maintain their form. An espalier's pruning requirements are exacerbated by choice of rootstock, species and variety. The southwest corner of the fruit garden has a lovely example of the same variety and horizontal cordon form grown on three different rootstocks.

My experience with the espaliers in our Fruit Garden suggests that not all kinds of fruit trees are well suited to the form. In particular, our Aromatnya Quince (Photo 2) is particularly vigorous, and, after several years trying to maintain it, I have decided that it is simply not a good choice for espalier. As you can see, after only a few months of growth it is wildly out of form, and each cordon sends up vertical waterspouts that quickly overtake the horizontal cordons higher up. Asian pears are also quite vigorous in our garden. This Belgian Fence Asian Pear espalier (Photo 3)



on the West side requires a lot of effort to maintain, more-so than the European pear espaliers (Photo 1) on the East side.



The Fruit Garden's mission is to showcase what can be grown in the climate of Western Washington. But acknowledging our failures is as much a part of that mission as publicizing our successes. My conclusion is that some combinations of species/variety/rootstock are simply too vigorous to make espalier practical.

Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

August 18, 2022



Find Your Bliss!

NW Fruit volunteers engage in interest groups to manage specific projects. We use the Work Group model to keep track of seasonal projects, and to coordinate with Garden Manager Tom Wake and Garden Comimittee Chair Colleen Sanders. These work groups offer experience accordingly:

In the Garden

- Blueberries
- Cherries
- Gravenstein apples
- Haskaps
- Kiwi
- Peaches
- Persimmons
- Construction projects
- Espalier training of apples,
pears & cherries
- Irrigation
- Organic Growing
- Pollinator friendly plantings

Or From Home

- Website & Media Updates
- Volunteer Coordinating
- Strategic Planning
- Publicity & Communications
- Membership/Mailing
- Liason with WSU Station
- Financials
- Event Planning
- Database
- By Laws

Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation (NW Fruit)

Donor 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 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 _____ Email address _____

Address _____ Phone # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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)

PLEASE SEND YOUR DONATION ALONG WITH THIS FORM

WWFRF
C/O Kim Siebert
7904 56th DR NE
Marysville, WA 98270

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

Thank you!

Master Gardener Classes Return to the Fruit Garden

By Bill Pierce

Several years ago, an alliance was formed between NWFruit Volunteers and WSU Skagit Extension's Master Gardener program. The Master Gardeners program included training in a variety of gardening subjects, but it lacked much practicum experience pruning fruit trees. So several instructors from NWFruit stepped up to provide a 3-hour program of in-the-field training. Based on evaluations, the students loved it, and it was a big success. Then the pandemic hit, and everything stopped for two years.

This summer, Bill Davis, Larry Crum, Richard Fairfield, Bob Baines and I re-started the program, with some great organization from Master Gardener's Training Team Chair Deborah Smeltzer. Thirty students received instruction in pruning tools, types of pruning cuts, winter vs. summer pruning, the fruiting habits of different species, and tree growth anatomy and habits. In the field, students evaluated a fruit tree and took turns discussing and making pruning cuts to address its needs. And, thanks to Hazel Sittner, they also got to enjoy our tradition of a social break with coffee and goodies. The good karma returned and, based on student evaluations, many people went away with a better understanding of how to steer the growth of fruit trees with pruning.

We will continue to make similar training available to NWFruit members and volunteers in the future.



Larry Crum with Master Gardeners – September 4, 2022

Founder's Corner

By Sam Benowitz

This is the 30th year for our Northwest Fruit group. Upon initiating this Founder's Corner column I'd like to tell you about what we are doing well for the Fruit Garden and about some challenges we have.

Volunteers Are the Backbone

We now have a world class fruit garden and a corps of dedicated volunteers who maintain it well. We hope to encourage more young people to become aware of the rewarding opportunities. It is inspiring to see the bountiful fruit that can successfully be grown in a home garden.

Most of our volunteers are retired people, many of whom in their professional careers have successfully managed impressive projects. They enjoy learning and teaching and they love the camaraderie of the other volunteers, not to mention the delicious snacks at the coffee breaks.

Well organized by Tom Wake and Colleen Sanders, NWF volunteers get to work on the projects that interest them. There are a bunch of fruit collections and sub-groups that anyone can join — peaches, cherries, kiwis, espaliers, currants and many more. Other task groups include construction skills, organic practices, irrigation, raptors, pollinators, plus publicity, communication and special events like Apple & Pear Day.

While there is no minimum hour commitment, NWF membership is required for all volunteers to work in the NWREC gardens. If you are interested please contact managers Tom Wake or Colleen Sanders at info@nwfruit.org. Thank you for playing your part in helping people grow their own healthy fruit. It matters and you are part of making it happen!

Our Challenges

I already mentioned one problem. Many of our volunteers are old. Many of these old people know a bunch about growing great fruit — young people can learn a lot from us, especially if you talk with us before we die. And contrary to popular belief, hanging out, hearing stories from interesting old people can be fun, even if it's only a few hours at a time.

It has occurred to us old people that having volunteer sessions on Thursday mornings might not be the best way to involve younger people who have jobs during the week. I told you that we are talking here about smart old people. So, we are now having volunteer work sessions on Saturday morning too.

If you are a young person or know a young person who wants to learn about growing fruit, tell them about our **October 8** event and encourage them to come and get involved. If you are a person who talks to groups, tell them about us.

Our Board is in Transition

Kristan Johnson, who was the designer of the fruit garden, died in November 2020. Kim Siebert, after more than 20 years of making sure our organization ran smoothly, has understandably cut back on her involvement with the organization.

Maintaining and improving the demonstration fruit garden and educating the public about how to successfully grow the many fruits in the garden is the mission of our group. If you feel you have ideas and can help with this process you can email me -- sambenowitz2@gmail.com

I need help now from someone who knows facebook to help me transfer the info from this newsletter onto our facebook page.

So these are my views, not the views of the organization or the board. Next newsletter I'll get horticultural and talk about some of the fruit cultivars we should in my opinion be adding to the hundreds that are already in our garden.

Upcoming Events

- Apple & Pear Day -- 10am to 2pm, October 8 2022 at WWREC, 16650 State Route 536. Free admission with up-to-date membership.
- 9 to Noon Workdays — On-going except December: Fun and educational Thursday Work Days. Plus recently revived Every-Other-Saturday work days, for aspiring volunteers who can't come on Thursdays. Learn more about all that's going on, and new ideas being proposed, by joining us. For more information contact Garden Manager Tom Wake or Garden Committee Chair Colleen Sanders, info@NWfruit.org
- Unveiling of website redesign - Target date early October.
- Fall Board Meeting - November 2022
- Several workshop days are offered each year, sometimes with fruit sampling, depending on the season. Free to members.
- The Winter Field Day/Open House - March 11, 2023. This event on the second Saturday of March consists of hands-on pruning, grafting and budding; talks on insects and pests; scionwood sale and root stock sale for apples and other fruit trees.
- Annual Membership Meeting - March 2023

Recent in the Fruit Garden

Photos from Colleen Sanders



Another raptor perch, organic rodent control!



Evidently lightning struck this walnut tree on the west side of the orchard.