



WESTERN CASCADE

TREE FRUIT

ASSOCIATION

NEWS LETTER - SPRING, 1983

MEETING NOTICE - February 26, 1983

TIME 10:00 AM
REGISTRATION 9:30 AM

PLACE Northwestern Washington Research and Extension Unit
1468 Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon, Washington

BUSINESS MEETING 10:00 AM

Nomination and Election of 3 Board of Directors
(The retiring Board Members are:
Dalbert Leaf, Tom Thornton, and Walt Lyon)

PROGRAM

10:30AM MY EXPERIENCE IN DEVELOPING A GRAVENSTEIN ORCHARD

Les Merritt, Merritts Gravenstein Orchard
898 Bayview-Edison Road, Mount Vernon

11:15AM ALL ABOUT NUT GROWING IN WESTERN WASHINGTON

Mike Dolan, Burnt Ridge Nursery, Onalaska

12:00AM Sack Lunch, Free Coffee,

Sale of Rootstock and Scion Wood - Walt Lyon

1:30PM* GRAFTING CLASS- First Session, Extension Auditorium
Tom Perkins, Perkins Variety Apples, Sedro Wooley

2:30PM* GRAFTING CLASS - Second Session

1:30PM PRUNING CLASS - First Session, Extension Orchard
Gary Moulton, WSU, NWREU, Mount Vernon

2:30PM PRUNING CLASS - Second Session

* Bring your own grafting knife, or sharp pocket knife.

Minutes of Business Meeting, September 25, 1982,
Tri-Area Center, Chimacum, Washington.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00PM by President Ed Lewis. Fifty-three members were present. Officers for 1982-1983 were introduced. Linda Chace, Vice-President; Joe Dupre, Secretary (absent); Jim Anstis, Treasurer; Board Members, Dal Leaf, Tom Thorton (absent), Walt Lyon, John Parker, Mrs. Marion Frost (absent), and Pete Kaiser.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

A copy of WCTFA By-Laws was submitted in the previous Newsletter, Summer 1982, which included Revision approved by the Board of Directors on April 24, 1982 to establish a separate office of Secretary.

A motion to accept the revised By-Laws was approved.

A motion was approved to add to the By-Laws, Article VII, Section 2 "The Board of Directors authorizes local Chapter Number One to be the North Olympic Fruit Club. All members of the chapter are to be members of the WCTFA. The chapter shall have at least one member on the Board of Directors."

The officers of Chapter No. 1 are: John Parker, President; Pete Kaiser, Vice-President; Ben LaLond, Treasurer; Susan Rowe, Secretary; Pete Kaiser, Director WCTFA.

John Parker announced plans for the FALL FRUIT SHOW are on schedule.

The hostess committee does need volunteers to serve free coffee, cookies and cider; assisting and directing guests. Admission is to be \$1.00 for persons over 12 years; under 12 years are to be free when with an adult.

Commercial Exhibitor will be charged a \$25.00 fee. They may give out cards, brochures, catalogs; advertise, inform guests of their products. No cash transactions are to be made.

The only charges for use of the fairgrounds are a \$30.00 cleanup fee a \$10.00 fee for three days camping with electrical hookup. Fine new restroom facilities with showers are next door. All parking is free on the fairgrounds. The show is to be held in the 60'x100' commercial building which is unheated. The slide and lecture programs will be in a smaller 4H building across the way and it will be heated.

Rick Reisinger, Snohomish County Extension Agent, announced plans for the 1983 ALL ABOUT FRUIT SHOW which will be held at the Puyallup Fair Grounds, November 5 and 6. They are considering three different levels of programs; one for the begining amateur, one for the advanced amateur and one for the professional level on research and production. He will have 1983 Show Brochures available at Port Townsend.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM.

FALL ORCHARD TOUR SEPTEMBER 25, PORTLUDLOW-SEQUIM AREA Ed Lewis

We met at 10:00AM at the home of John and Frieda Parker. They have a unique landscaped orchard near Port Ludlow, accented by a brilliant display of dahlias with a picturesque easterly view of Hoods Canal and Mount Baker on the distant horizon. Large apple trees border a long U-shaped driveway, many of them with multiple grafts. Other fruit in the garden include cherries, plums, prunes, and Gillette figs near the house. We were surprized to see large healthy Kiwi vines loaded with their small green fruit. Before departing, we were refreshed with coffee and cake prepared by Frieda.

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The second orchard on our tour was Dal Leafs' near Hadlock. Dal has his front and back yard completely filled with bearing fruit trees, mostly apples on M26 semi-dwarfing rootstock. His 144 apple trees were heavy with fruit and well staked, using pruned branches or whatever he could find. For fertilizer he used a mulch of compost. In spite of little use of spraying, his trees were very clean.

The third orchard visited was near Sequim at Brian Quigleys. Since he was away on a trip, we had a self guided tour with the trees well tagged. I recorded my observations, even a rooster crowing, and took slide pictures of the following fine looking apples: Jonamac, Prima, Jonagold and Cortland. A large green apple starting to color up was Spigold, a NY origination. It is a very large beautiful apple with red stripes on a golden background. It is a very vigorous grower, late bloomer, late bearing just after Jonagold and Melrose. I would like to hear how well it performs here.

Bill Gebhardt's near Sequim was our next visit. He has a nice block of large cherry trees with Bing, Lambert and Royal Anne. Lambert does the best for him. His apple orchard of about one acre had several large ten-year old trees on M7 rootstock. I took slides of Jonagold, Summer Red and Spanton. His favorite tree is Wagener. He claims that it is a terrific keeper.

The fifth orchard visited was at Ben LaLondes near Sequim. It is located on a bluff about 100 feet above the valley floor. Near the house is a row of nice bearing apples on M7 rootstock. He has a field orchard of about one acre growing on M26 in very light sandy soil on which is a shredded wood mulch. An interesting feature in this orchard is the use of drip-irrigation in this area of light rainfall. Being on the bluff, this orchard receives very strong prevailing westerly winds. To offset this the trees are guyed into the wind.

The last orchard visited for the day was at Doug Behrenfelds near Sequim. It has about 100 young apple trees, mostly on M26 with some on M7. They are quite widely spaced (16'x20'). Shallow wide furrows are used for irrigation. Half of the trees are bearing. Got a nice slide of a loaded Spanton tree. Just as we headed for the car the rain caught up with us; ending our beautiful tour.

BUSINESS CONSIDERATIONS IN STARTING AND OPERATING AN ORCHARD Mike Michel

Business procedures are frequently neglected and subordinated to pomological considerations. The orchardist (or any entrepreneur) may fail or barely make wages - due to lack of business acumen, background or discipline. The entire field is rather broad to cover in one day or one lecture. It is my thought, a series of mini-workshops could be conducted at each meeting, dealing with specialized aspects of an orchard business (taxes, bookkeeping-records, evaluation of cost effectiveness of new equipment, etc.)

I specifically mentioned the tax aspect, as this is an area so poorly understood; what tax benefits are frequently lost or overlooked in setting up an orchard; what steps are to be taken in advance to avoid pitfalls later and so on.

It is thought that this subject would be presented by practicing consultants; CPAs, Tax Attorneys, etc. Shall we pursue this subject?

The Fruit Show was held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

The fruit exhibits were in the Commercial building and the slide show and lectures were in the nearby 4H building. The show-attendance for the two days was 736. The North Olympic Fruit Club are to be commended for their carefully planned and well organized show.

There were eight commercial exhibits; four nurseries, one cider and fruit preserves, one fruit preserves, one fresh fruit pack, and one on drip-irrigation. Three educational exhibits included Nash Huber-live bees, U of W Edible Plants, and Master Gardners. The Fruit-Identification Booth headed by John Parker was one of the most popular places in the show.

Well over 100 varieties of beautiful fruit were displayed with apples predominant as well as many grapes and pears. The fifteen members displaying fruit were Gerald Pate, Dal Leaf, Bill Burmester, Warren Manhart, John Parker, Brian Quigley, Ben LaLonde, Bill Gebhardt, Walt Lyon, Pete Kaiser, Mike Michel, Lou Sarna, Jim Anstis, Ed Lewis, and WSU Extension-Bob Norton. (Another year, we will plan to report the names of the fruit exhibited.)

The horticulture presentations were very well attended. There were four Slide-Sound Sequences developed by Dr. Robert Stebbins and given by Ed Lewis both days:

1. How to Grow Apples in the Home Garden
2. Training Apple and Pear Trees
3. Pruning Apple and Pear Trees
4. Pruning Mature Bearing Apple Trees

Of the four programs, No.4 was the most popular followed by No.1.

We wish to express our thanks to Warren Manhart for his fine lecture in filling in for Dr. Stebbins, Saturday.

We are also grateful to George Pinyuh for his informative talk on 'Unique Fruits'.

The members of the NOFC are all keyed up over the success and fun with this show, they are enthusiastic about having another in 1983.

NOTICE: PLEASE PAY YOUR 1983 DUES (\$10.00) BY MAIL TO JIM ANSTIS BEFORE THE SPRING MEETING, OR PREREGISTER BETWEEN 9:30 & 10:00AM, FEB.26 AT THE EXTENSION UNIT AUDITORIUM.

WESTERN CASCADE TREE FRUIT ASSOCIATION

Purpose:

Shall be to bring together persons interested in growing fruit and nuts west of the Cascade Mountains for the purpose of disseminating information.

Shall be to aid financially to tree fruit research in the Northwestern Washington Research and Extension Unit, Mount Vernon, Washington.

Membership activities:

Spring - one day seminar, Fall - orchard or facilities tour, and fruit show. Three issues of Newsletter - spring, summer and fall.

Name _____ Phone _____

City & State _____ Zip _____

Dues: \$10.00, annually at or before spring meeting. New ___ Renewal ___

Mail to: Mr. Jim Anstis, 420 92nd St., Everett, WA 98204

Your fruit speciality or interest _____

HOW FAR APART SHALL I PLANT MY DWARF APPLE TREES?

R. A. Norton and G. A. Moulton

The spacing of fruit trees in a yard, garden or commercial orchard is related to a number of factors including:

1. Natural vigor of the cultivar (variety).
2. Rootstock.
3. Soil types and fertility.
4. Training method.
5. Pruning.

If one plants trees too close together for the cultivar, stock or soil, the trees will compete with each other, will require excessive pruning, produce lower quality fruit and have greater insect and disease problems.

The chart below will help decide just how far apart to plant apple trees of different cultivars when grown on the rootstocks commonly available in this area. The cultivars shown are those discussed in EB 0937, Tree Fruit Cultivars for Western Washington Homes and Orchards. Nursery trees may not state the specific rootstock but be spoken of only as dwarf, semi-dwarf or standard. A range of sizes exists within these types so if you want to be sure of your spacing, ask the nurseryman to identify the stock.

As to the effect of soil type on tree spacing we suggest you add 2 feet to the spacings given if the tree is to be planted in excellent, well drained, fertile garden soil. If, on the other hand, the tree is to be planted on extremely sandy or gravelly soil or on hardpan, you might plant 2 feet closer than suggested.

The suggested planting distances given below are for trees trained and pruned by standard methods suggested in PNW 156. The distance between rows should be related to equipment available for management but should never be less than the between-tree distance.

One last point. There are differences in apple trees grown in the cooler, more humid areas of western Oregon, Washington and British Columbia from the interior regions. Trees in the more coastal areas tend to grow more spreading (if not overpruned), have longer internodes (space between the buds) and show less fruit spur development than their counterparts in the interior. It is especially important to give trees enough space in these coastal areas where sunlight is lacking. The chart below gives suggested spacings west of the Cascades. In interior regions, you might be able to crowd them a bit closer to increase yield.

Classification of Cultivars by Vigor:

- Low Vigor - Discovery, Jonamac, Spur Golden Delicious.
- Moderate Vigor - Tydeman Early, Summerred, Akane, Spartan, Macoun, Melrose, Golden Delicious, Paulared, Prima, Gala, Hawaii.
- Vigorous - Lodi, Yellow Transparent, Buckley Giant, Chehalis, King, Jonagold.
- Very Vigorous - Gravenstein, Mutsu, Northern Spy

ROOTSTOCK	SUGGESTED SPACING (FEET) BY VIGOR CLASS			
	Low	Mod.	Vig.	Very Vig.
Dwarf - EM 9	4	6	6-8	8
Semi-Dwarf - M 26	6-8	8	10	12
Semi-Dwarf - EM 7	10	12	12-14	16
Semi-Dwarf - MM 106	12	14	16	18
Standard-Seedling - MM 111	16	20	22	26

ROOTSTOCK AND SCIONWOOD SALE

The rootstock and scionwood sale at the spring meeting will be handled much the same as last year. If you are interested in buying rootstocks for spring grafting, please indicate on the form below how many of each type you want and return the form to me with your check for the total amount. All rootstocks to be picked up at the spring meeting. If, for some reason, you can't make it to the meeting after having reserved rootstocks, you may contact me to arrange a pick up at a later date. I will hold the plants until I hear from you.

ROOTSTOCK ORDER BLANK

APPLE

Prices: \$1.50 each; \$12/10; 25 or more \$1 each except for EMLA 27.
EMLA 27 \$1.65 each or \$13 for 10.

M7a _____ AM'T _____ EMLA 27 _____ AM'T _____
M26 _____ _____

PLUM and CHERRY

Two year, heavily rooted plants. Price: \$2.00 each.

St. Julien A _____ AM'T _____ Mazzard Fl2-1 _____ AM'T _____
Myroholan _____ _____ Total am't _____

Name, address & phone No. _____

Please mail to Walter L. Lyon, 19717 80th N.E., Bothell, Wn. 98011
Phone : 483-5574

Scionwood prices will be \$.50 each, same as last year. Pick out the ones you want and pay the treasure. All members are asked to save for the sale scions of varieties you think other members might be interested in. Save only from healthy trees. Most easily done when you are pruning. Pick only the new wood, preferably about lead pencil size. Label carefully. Wrap in plastic bags, and store in refrigerator until time to bring to our meeting. Purchasers please bring labels for the scions you select.