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SPRING 1990

WESTERN CASCADE FRUIT SOCIETY

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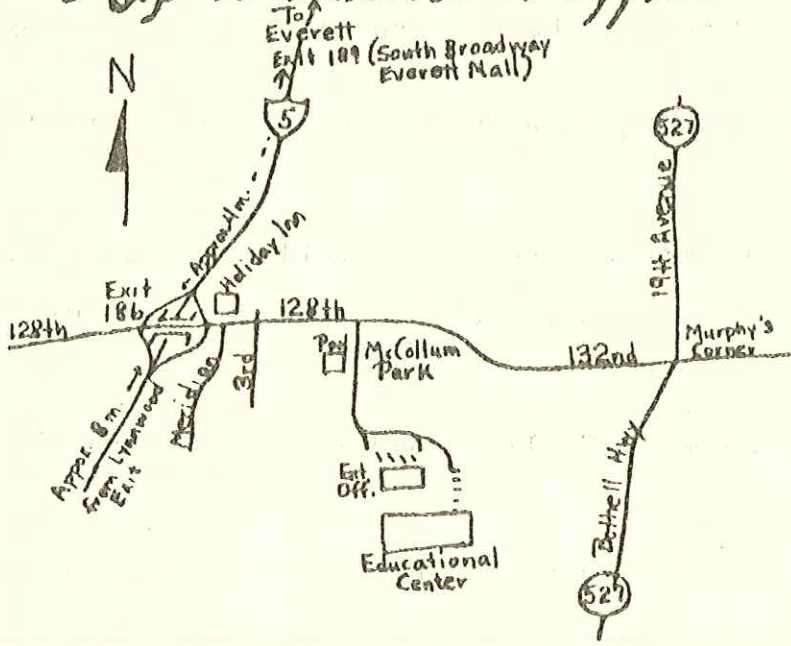
SPRING MEETING

March 3rd
Saturday
WCFS Annual Spring Meeting, WSU/Snohomish County
Extension Education Center in south Everett (see map)

- 9:30 am Business Meeting
- 10 am Break
- 10:30 am Springtime Disease Control (using what fungicides are still available) by Dr. Ralph Byther, Puyallup Research Center
- 11:30 am Brown Bag lunch and grafting lecture
- 1 pm Apple Variety Testing and Training at Oregon State University by Dr. Robert Stebbins
- 3 pm Board Meeting

Rootstock and scionwood will be available from 10 am to 3 pm.

Map to Extension Office



The Snohomish County office is just east of I-5 on 128th Street (2 exits north of the I-5/405 interchange and south of Everett). Proceed east for approximately 1/4 mile to McCollum/Pioneer Park. We are at the back beyond the swimming pool and park work area.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 2-3 Farming for profit and Stewardship, Sustainable Agriculture in the Pacific Northwest Conference in Vancouver. Information and brochures available from local Extension Offices.
- March 10th Free classes at Raintree Nursery (Onalaska Grade Saturday School) including fruit tree varieties, training, 9 am - 2:15 and pruning, and growing nuts, grapes, herbs, and grafting. For more information, 496-6400.
- March 10th Free class on tree fruit growing at Cloud Mt. Farm Saturday in Everson. For more information, 6906 Goodwin Rd, Everson 98247.
- March 11th Plant Amnesty Tree Fruit Pruning Program at Tilth, Sunday Good Shepard Center in Seattle.
- March 17th Pruning Demonstration for fruit trees, berries, etc. Saturday at WSU Master Gardener Demonstration Garden in Jennings Park, Marysville. For more information 1 pm - 4 pm contact WSU/Snohomish County Extension, 338-2400.
- March 20th Pruning Trees and Shrubs, free public lecture by Tuesday Dr. Ray Maleike from Puyallup Research Station at 9 am - noon WSU/Snohomish Extension Education Center.
- March 24th Repeat of March 10th Cloud Mnt. Farm Workshop. Saturday
- March 31st Growing on a Trellis or Arbor -- Cloud Mnt. Farm Saturday 10 am - 11:30
- early April Commerical Apple Production -- Cloud Mnt. Farm
- April 7th Growing Small Fruits -- Cloud Mnt. Farm Saturday 10 am - 11:30
- April 15th Growing Small Garden Trees -- Cloud Mnt. Farm Saturday 10 am - 11:30
- August 15th Stone Fruit Open House at Mt. Vernon Research Station. Wednesday
- October 20th AppleFest at Forest Park in Everett, sponsored by Saturday Everett Parks and Recreation, WSU/Snohomish County Extension and WCFS members.
- November 3-4 WCFS Fall Fruit Show at Urban Hort Center, Seattle.

Spring 1990

1989 FRUIT SHOW INVENTORY

The following list inventories the number of "plates" of a specific variety that were displayed in our 1989 show. An entry with no number following it was in a single display. An asterisk means that this variety was not shown in 1988.

APPLES showed impressive changes from the previous year. The two-hundred seventy-eight varieties (including "sports") shown in 1989 included seventy-five varieties that were not shown in 1988. This means we are truly experimenting. However, our finds will not become valued additions to the future of pomology in the Pacific Northwest unless we share them with others. If one of your favorite apples has an asterisk after it in the 1989 list, send our editor a story explaining why you are impressed with your choice. Only by sharing will others know to follow - especially with "local" varieties.

For comparison, two-hundred forty-nine apple varieties were shown at the 1988 show.

Varieties with five plates or more (including "sports") were: Gravenstein (16), Jonagold (12), Melrose (11), Spartan (11), Gala (10), Idared (10), Tompkin's King (10), Chehalis (9), Northern Spy (9), Akane (8), Cox's Orange Pippin (8), Esopus Spitzenburg (8), Liberty (8), Macoun (8), McIntosh (8), Mutsu (8), Rome (8), Ashmead's Kernel (7), Hudson's golden Gem (7), Jonamac (7), Kidd's Orange Red (7), Rhode Island Greening (7), Calville Blanc De Hiver (6), Sinta (6), Spigold (6), Summerred (6), Belle de Boskoop (5), Cortland (5), Elstar (5), Fameuse (5), Golden Delicious (5), Jefferis (5), Jonathan (5), Jonwin (5), Kandil Sinap (5), Opalescent (5), Prima (5), Roxbury Russet (5), Stark Jumbo (5), Yellow Bellflower (5).

For comparison, LAST YEAR (1988) winners in the over five plate category (in order) were:

Jonagold, McIntosh, Gala, Macoun, Gravenstein, Northern Spy, Spartan, Tompkin's King, Elstar, Cox's Orange Pippin, Akane, Mutsu, Hudson's Golden Gem, Esopus Spitzenburg, Baldwin, Golden Delicious, Liberty, Jonathan, Cox's Orange Pippin, Chehalis, Bramley Seedling, Grimes Golden, Idared, Jonamac, Sinta, Summerred, and Winter Banana.

Remember that many very early varieties cannot be successfully stored for showing in late October, so please do not judge them by their lack of involvement in this inventory.

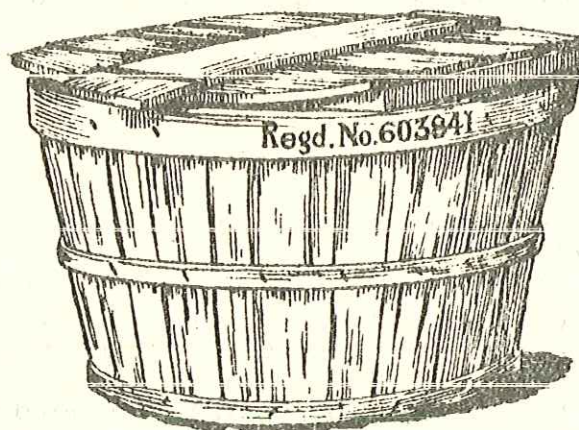
I was personally pleased to see Golden Nugget and Northern Sweet on the list with an asterisk after them this year - for totally different reasons. Northern Sweet was introduced to the world in 1850 in an article written by one Jonathan Battey and published in The Horticulturist edited by Andrew Jackson Downing. I haven't yet figured out how close a relative Jonathan was. Golden Nugget is one of my favorite eating

apples. It was bred in Nova Scotia from Golden Russet X Cox's Orange Pippin and is excellent.

PEARS added five new out of twenty-four shown. They were, as last year, well spread around the exhibit area, showing a more universal interest among our members.

GRAPES had twenty-six varieties entered in 1989, compared with sixteen in 1988 and twenty-three in 1987.

Dave Battey - Monte Vista Farm, Snoqualmie Washington



GIANT APPLE STORY

Fred Bassetti, a Seattle architect with a national reputation for superior design, dropped by the fruit show to attempt identification of an apple he knew as a child. The fruit is immense. He has had it grafted and has given trees to friends so that it won't "disappear". Two trees of the variety stand in the yard of the home just west of Tukwila where Fred grew up. It may well be a local variety. He gets different answers from different apple ID experts, but knows that it is not Stark Jumbo, Spokane Beauty, or any of the better known "giants". The sample he brought in, an apple he grew from a tree on M7 rootstock planted in a half barrel on his boat (he hand pollinated it), weighed in at two pounds, five ounces!!

I will have some "Bassetti" wood available at the scion exchange this Spring.

Dave Battey - Monte Vista Farm, Snoqualmie Washington

Spring 1990

1989 FRUIT SHOW VARIETY LIST (*=NOT ON '88 LIST)

APPLES

AKANE 8
ALEXANDER
ALMATA *
ALKMENE
ALLINGTON PIPPIN *
ANOKA 2
ANNIE ELIZABETH *
ARKANSAS BLACK
ARLET
AROMA *
ASHMEAD'S KERNEL 7
ASTRACHAN *
ASTRACHAN (EARLY STRIPED) *
BALDWIN 4
BELLE DE BOSKOOP 5
BENNETT SEEDLING *
BEN DAVIS
BENHAM *
BERNE ROSE *
BIETIGHEIMER 2
BLAIRMONT
BLACK GILLIFLOWER 3
BLACKJON
BLACKOXFORD *
BLENHEIM ORANGE 2
BLUE PEARMAIN 3
BRAEBURN 2
BRAMLEY SEEDLING 3
BROWN RUSSET 3
BRUSTER *
BUCKLEY GIANT 4
BURGUNDY 4
CALVILLE BLANC D'HIVER 6
CHEHALIS 9
CHENANGO STRAWBERRY 4
CHESAPEAKE *
CHEVY CHASE (A LOCAL APPLE) *
CHESTNUT CRAB *
CHISEL JERSEY 2
COAT'S JERSEY
CORTLAND 5
COOS RIVER BEAUTY
CORNISH GILLIFLOWER *
COURT PENDU PLAT 3
COW JERSEY *
COX'S ORANGE PIPPIN 8
CRITERION 4
CRUTCHER'S SEEDLING *
CUSHMAN KING *
DAVEY 3
DELICIOUS (RED) 3
DISCOVERY 2
DREW'S RED 1
DUCHESS OF OLDENBURG 3 *
DUTCH MIGNONNE
DYER (POMME ROYALE)
EARLY MAC *
ED'S SEEDLING *
EGREMONT RUSSET 3
ELAN *
ELSTAR 5
EMPIRE 2
ENGLES FAVORITE 2
ERWIN BAUER 2
ESOPOS SPITZENBURG 8
EVE'S DELIGHT 2
FALL PIPPIN
FALL RUSSET
FAMEUSE (SNOW) 5
FAYETTE
FIESTA *
FIRESIDE 2 *
FLAKUS *
FLORINA
FORTUNE SEEDLING *
FREEDOM 4
FREYBERG 1
FUJI REDSPORT
FUKUTAMI *
GALA 7
GALA (ROYAL) 3
GAYNER *
GARLAND
GEYER'S ROSE 2
GILPIN *
GLOCKENAPFEL
GLORIA MUNDI 2
GLOSTER 4
GOLDEN DELICIOUS 5
GOLDEN NOBLE
GOLDEN NUGGET *
GOLDEN RUSSET 4
GOLDEN SWEET
GRANNY HURST 2
GRAVENSTEIN 7
GRAVENSTEIN (CANDYSTRIPE)
GRAVENSTEIN (RED) 6
GRAVENSTEIN (SHEETS)
GRAVENSTEIN (STRIPED) *
GRIMES GOLDEN 2
GROVE
HARRY MASTER'S JERSEY 2
HAWAII 2
HENRY'S GOLDEN KEEPER
(NANCY CUSHMAN MET HENRY!)
HOLLY *
HOLSTEIN 3
HUBBARDSTON NONESUCH 3

HUDSON'S GOLDEN GEM 7	NORTHERN SPY (EARLY) 2
IDARED 10	NORTHERN SPY (RED)
INGRID MARIE	NORTHERN SWEET *
JEFFERIS 5	NOVA EASYGROW 2
JEFFERS RUSSET	NUGGET 2 *
JONAGOLD 12	OCTOBER GOLD (CRAB) 2 *
JONALICIOUS (STARK)	OHIO NONPAREIL 3
JONAMAC 7	OLYMPIA? *
JONARED	OLYMPIC QUEEN
JONATHAN 3	OPALESCENT 5
JONATHAN (DOUBLE RED) *	OREI 3
JONWIN 5	ORENCO
JULY RED *	ORIN
KANDIL SINAP 5	ORIOLE 2
KARMIJNI	ORLEANS REINETTE 2
KEEPSAKE 4	ORTLEY *
KIDD'S ORANGE RED 7	OZARK GOLD *
KINGSTON BLACK	PACIFIC PRIDE *
LADY 4	PALMER GREENING
LIBERTY 8	(WASHINGTON ROYAL)
LORD LAMBOURNE	PALOUSE 3
LORD'S SEEDLING	PAR FECT CRITERION
MACFREE	PAULARED 2
MACOUN 8	PECK PLEASANT
MAIDEN BLUSH 4	PINK PEARL 4
MAIGOLD 2 *	PITMASTON PINEAPPLE 2
MCINTOSH 2	POMME RAISIN 2
MCINTOSH (GADZKE) *	PORTER 3
MCINTOSH (ROB ROY)	PORTER'S PERFECTION *
MCINTOSH (4X) *	POUND SWEET
MCINTOSH (BLACKMAC) *	PRAIRIE SPY 3
MCPMAHON	PRISCILLA *
MEDINA *	PRIMA 5
MELROSE 11	PRIMATE *
MERTON CHARM *	PUMPKIN SWEET 2 *
MERTON PIPPIN	RAMBO
MICHELIN	RED BARON
MINJON *	RED CANADA
MIO	RED RED ROME
MOLLIE'S DELICIOUS 2	RED ROME 2
MONROE 3	RED ROME (IMPROVED) 2
MOTHER 3	REDGOLD (STARK) 2 *
MULTNOMAH 2	RHODE ISLAND GREENING 7
MUTSU 8	RIBSTON PIPPIN 3
NEWTOWN PIPPIN	ROME 2
(SEE YELLOW NEWTON)	ROME (TAYLOR) *
NEW YORK 315 2	ROUNDTREE SWEET 2
NEW YORK 4408-11 2	ROXBURY RUSSET 5
NEW YORK 428 3	RUSSETED SPY
NEW YORK 429 3	SALOME 2
NEW YORK 543	SCARLET STAYMARED (DICKIE STRAIN) *
NEW YORK 58-22 (CRAB) *	SEIKOICHI 3
NIAGARA *	SHAMROCK *
NITTANY 3	SHAY 2 *
NORFOLK ROYAL	SHEEPNOSE
NORTHERN SPY 6	SHENANDOAH 2 *

Spring 1990

SIERRA BEAUTY *
SIGNE TILLISCH 2
SINTA 6
SKINNER *
SMITH RIVER GREEN * (PATE)
SMOKEHOUSE
SNOW (SEE FAMEUSE)
SOTO *
SPARTAN 11
SPENCER 2
SPIGOLD 6
SPLENDOR (RED) *
SPOKANE BEAUTY *
SPYRED *
STARK EARLIBLAZE 3
STARK JUMBO 5
STAYMAN WINESAP
STEARNS
SUMMERED 6
SUMMER RAMBO *
SUMMER TREAT (NJ49)
SUMMERLAND *
SUMMERLAND (F-62-F) *
SUMMERLAND CRAB (F-32-3)
SUNSET
SWEET BOUGH
SWEET SIXTEEN 2
SWISS RED
TOHOKU #4
TOKO 2
TOLMAN SWEET 2
TOMPKIN'S KING 10
TOM PUTT *
TWENTY OUNCE 4
TYDEMAN'S RED 4
VICTORY
VIKING
VIRGINIA GOLD *
WAGENER
WASHINGTON STRAWBERRY 2 *
WEALTHY 3
WEALTHY (RED) 3
WESTFIELD SEEK NO FURTHER 4
WHITE PIPPIN
WHITE WINTER PEARMAIN 2
WICKSON *
WIJCIK (MCINTOSH)
WILLIAM CRUMP
WILLIAM'S FAVORITE *
WINESAP
WINSTON 2
WINTER BANANA 4
WINTER GRAVENSTEIN
WINTER GREEN
(PROBABLY MUTSU)
WINTERSTIEN *

WOLF RIVER 3
WORCESTER PEARMAIN
X-ELLENT 2 *
YELLOW BELLFLOWER 5
YELLOW NEWTON 1
YORK IMPERIAL 3

PEARS

ANJOU
BARTLETT
BEURRE' GRIS *
BEURRE' SUPERFIN
BOSC 2
CHOJURO
COMICE 7
CONFERENCE
DUCHESS D'ANGOULENE 2
DUMONT 2
ELDORADO *
FLEMISH BEAUTY
HIGHLAND
NITAKA *
NEW YORK 10274 *
ORCAS
PACKHAM'S TRIUMPH 2
PRECOCE DE TREVOCCE *
RESCUE 2
SECKEL 2
SHINKO 2
SHINSEIKI
STARK DELICIOUS 2
TWENTIETH CENTURY
(NIJISSEIKI)

GRAPES

ALDEN 2
AURORA *
BUFFALO *
CACO *
CANDICE SEEDLESS 3
CHASSELAS D'OR *
EDELWEISS *
GLENORA 3
GREEN CONCORD *
INTERLAKEN 2
ISLAND BELLE
(CAMPBELL'S EARLY)
LAKEMONT
LYNDEN BLUE
MC CAMPBELL
MULLER THURGAU
NEW YORK MUSCAT
NEW YORK 30454

OKANOGAN RIESLING
PINOT NOIR *
ST CROIX *
SENECA 3 *
SUFFOLK RED 3
SWENSON'S RED 2 *
TOTMUR *
VINLAND *
WHITE DIAMOND

OTHER

KIWI (ACTINIDEA ARGUTA) 3
KIWI (ACTINIDEA CHINESIS)
HAYWARD
KIWI (ACTINIDEA KOLOMKTA) *
KIWI (ACTINIDEA MELANANDRA) *
KIWI (ACTINIDEA POLYGAMA) *
MEDLAR
PLUM (GIANT DAMSON)
QUINCE

SAVE SCIONWOOD FOR SPRING MEETING

by Bill Davis

It's not too early to start thinking about saving your scionwood for sale during our annual spring meeting on March 3rd. The scionwood will be sold in conjunction with the rootstock sale for \$.50 each. All members are asked to save scions of their favorite varieties and any other varieties they think members would like to have.

Be sure to select only healthy wood free of insect, disease and winter damage and from trees of known performance. In general, one year old wood that is about the size of a lead pencil is preferable to older wood. Please don't bring patented varieties!

To help make the scionwood sale somewhat more organized than it has been in the past, members planning to bring scionwood should send a list of the varieties they're providing to:

Bill Davis (771-)8978)
21611 92nd Av W
Edmonds 98020

A list will be provided of what varieties are available if everyone cooperates. In the past we've had a lot of requests for Jonagold, so if you have this variety please plan to bring some.

It's very important to label each scion individually. Masking tape is fine, or you can use plastic plant labels. Please print labels legibly (spelling and neatness count) and specify fruit if it's not apple scionwood--Frost peach or Comice pear.

Protection of the scion from drying out is also important. You can place them in a plastic bag with a slightly moistened paper towel and put them in the crisper compartment of your refrigerator. If you don't have room in the refrigerator, you can bury the wrapped scionwood bundles in sawdust or soil on the north side of a building. Bury them deep enough so they will stay cold even in late spring. Sealing the cut surfaces of the scions in low-heat paraffin would be ideal, but not absolutely necessary.

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SAUCING UP THE APPLES

by Walt Lyon

One of the nice things about having a rather large collection of apple varieties is that you know each year as the apple season approaches you are going to get to taste a number of apples for the first time. And you can be sure that I manage to taste each of those bearing for the first time. But it takes a bit of doing to get around to tasting all of the new ones cooked in the many ways in which they can be cooked. The first, and perhaps the best, taste test is a batch of applesauce.

In our house I have only two functions in the kitchen. I'm the keeper of the sourdough pot, and I usually make the applesauce. I wash the apples, quarter them, remove the stems and any imperfections such as worm holes, put them in a pot with a little water in the bottom, cover and cook until soft. When cool enough I put them through a colander. Our Kitchen Aid mixer has a very good colander attachment which does the job quickly and easily. This way you get all the flavor out of the core and color out of the peel.

I never add any sweetener. If anybody needs it they can add some at the table, and perhaps a sprinkle of cinnamon. This is the pure essence of cooked apples. Nothing has been added, and not much taken away. I eat a sizeable dish of it for breakfast almost every morning. In the summer I might have a dish of some kind of berries.

Just before Christmas 1988 we were shopping over at Aurora Village and wandered into Frederick and Nelson, and eventually ended up in the kitchen wares section. They were having a good special on some very nice stock pots, stainless steel with heavy bottoms. Hazel mentioned that she had always wanted a stock pot, so I bought her one. I think the size of it is 12 quarts, and of course I was thinking how neat this would be for making applesauce--lot's of it.

Of all the varieties I have made into applesauce, we both think that Opalescent is the best. But the apples have to be well ripened and just off the tree. By the time I work my way through the first batch, the second is never as good. The apples have already started to deteriorate.

Almata makes a very pretty, deeply colored suace, and it is very good too. Pink Pearl isn't quite as dark in color, but it is beautiful and is very good also. This year I made a batch out of Elstar and one out of Jonagold just after. Jonagold was a little sweeter, but I thought Elstar had a little more flavor. Both Orel and Toko make a nice yellow sauce and both are very tasty. I couldn't say which is the best. Of course Northern Spy is always good too. I made a batch out of Swaar this year for the first time and it was very good.

Several years ago I got an apple from Worcester, Mass. named Vandevere. It never seemed to do very well here. It cracked a lot and never made a very good looking apple. Some years the taste was pretty fair, but never anything to get excited about. Anyway, I tried a batch of sauce out of it this year, and it was delicious. I had already made up my mind to discard it, but now I don't think I can do that. Do you keep a variety just for one batch of sauce a year? Guess I'll try another batch next year and think about it.

And then there is the old Yellow Newtown which barely gets ripe here, but will always ripen in the garage. Right now I'm working on a batch of that, and I'm not sure that Opalescent is very much better. I'll probably make two or three more batches of it before it gets too far along.

Don't know when I'll get around to all the 300 or so varieties that I have. But I'm going to work on it. What a way to spend your retirement!

PROGRESS REPORT ON ROOTSTOCK SALE

By Walt Lyon

I thought the sale of rootstocks was progressing nicely, but for several days I haven't had a single order. If any of you are interested please send in your order. Details are in the last newsletter. This is a list of rootstocks not sold on Feb. 1st.

MARK	P-22	EM9	OHXF 333	CITATION
109	170	125	137	21

Of course if there are any left on March 3rd, I will bring them to the sale and hope to sell them there.

Please send orders to Walter L. Lyon, 19717 80th NE, Botell, WA 98011. If there are any questions, call 206-483-5574. Best time to call is in the evening.

CHAPTER NEWS

The Peninsula Fruit Club elected new officers for 1990. They are:

President	Don McDonald
Vice President	Mike Shannon
Secretary	Barbara Hager
Treasurer	Pat Rothenberg
Board Member	Lloyd Nielsen

Plans were made for their Grafting Workshop, Feb. 24th from 10 am to 2 pm at the Kitsap Regional Library on Sylvan Way in Bremerton. Over 200 people showed up last year to learn how to graft.

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS . . .

PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES TO BE VOTED ON IN THE SPRING MEETING:

Name Change: Change the sentence This association shall be known as "WESTERN CASCADE TREE FRUIT ASSOCIATION" to This organization shall be known as "WESTERN CASCADE FRUIT SOCIETY" (WCFS).

This name change will be inserted in the By-laws wherever the organization name occurs. Also, wherever the term association appears, this term will be changed to society.

Description of the Board of Directors: Change Article IV, Sections 1 & 2 as follows:

Article IV, Section 1. The business of the society shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of the officers of the society, the chapter presidents or their proxies (see Section 5), the society's newsletter editor, and nine (9) directors elected by the membership.

Section 2. The nine directors elected by the membership shall each serve a term of three (3) years, with three (3) directors being elected each year. Nominations for these elected directors shall be made by a nominating committee of three (3) or more members appointed by the president and by nominations from members attending the society's spring meeting. Vacancies in this group of directors shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining directors.

- - - - -

Members at the Spring Meeting will also vote in three new directors, replacing Walt Lyon, Dr. Robert Bordeau and Ben LaLonde, whose terms are expiring. Suggestions for nominations can be made to committee coordinator John Davey.

Board members will meet after the Spring Meeting to elect officers for the year. Any WCFS member is welcome to attend.

- - - - -

Jim Anstis, who was one of the original members of WCFS, died Jan 30th. Jim served as secretary/treasurer in the early 1980's and was a board member for several years. Up to the last year or so when ill health prevented his being active in WCFS, Jim was always to be found making signs or constructing booths or whatever else needed to be done at the Fruit Shows as well as displaying his fruit.

1989 WCFS OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Parker, President ^{also chapter} (NOFC President)
60 Tala Shore Dr, Port Ludlow 98365; 437-2313

John Davey, Vice President (1992)
3519 SW 171st St, Seattle 98166; 246-6144

Paul Donaldson, Secretary (~~not a board member~~)
916 NW 122nd, Seattle 98177; 364-0161

Walt Lyon, Treasurer (1990)
19717 80th NE, Bothell 98011; 483-5574

Nancy Jo Cushman, Newspaper Editor (~~not a board member~~)
9210 131st NE, Lk. Stevens 98258; 659-6087

~~Dave Bettey, Historian (not a board member)
40404 SE 70th Dr, Snoqualmie 98065; 888-2504~~

Dr. Robert Bordeau (1990)
15211 Wash. Av NE, Bainbridge Island 98110; 842-4865

Joe Bullock (San Juan Chapter President)
PO Box 109, Deer Harbor 98243; 376-2071

Bill Davis (1992)
21611 92nd Av W, Edmonds 98020; 771-8978

Lyle Knudsen (1992)
6228 129th AV SE, Bellevue 98006; 746-9980

Robert Kuper (Tahoma Chapter President)
28316 80th AVE E, Graham 98338; 847-7213

Ben LaLonde (1990)
491 Lotzgessel Rd, Sequim 98382; 683-4055

Marlene Falkenbury (Seattle Tree ^{Fruit} Society President)
7547 32nd Av E, Seattle 98115; 522-2273

Ed Lewis (1991)
9615 NE 14th, Bellevue 98004; 454-3615

~~Don McDonald~~
Max Meyers (Peninsula Fruit Club President)
~~11102 126th AV NW, Gig Harbor 98335; 851-4422~~
1213 SE Lidar Rd., Port Orchard, Wash. 98366; 876-8785

Pat Rothenberg (1991)
744 Wallin, Bremerton 98310; 337-0652

Ron Schaevitz (Piper Orchard Chapter President)
1227 NW 117th St, Seattle 98177; 362-1227

Norm Schut (South Puget Sound Chapter President)
5619 Sunrise Beach Rd, Olympia 98502

Dick Tilbury (1991)
4916 52nd AV S, Seattle 98118; 723-9009

Spring 1990

WISDOM FROM THE PAST

One of the books that I enjoy the most among my collection of "antique" horticultural tomes was published in 1859 and is a collection of papers written by Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887). The title is typically long for the period and reads, Plain and Pleasant Talk about Fruits, Flowers, and Farming.

The style and clarity of his writing, the proselytizing manner in which he speaks of the betterment of the American people through their farms and his first-hand personal knowledge of the beginnings of scientific agriculture come through on every page. A short biography of Henry in Liberty Hyde Bailey's Cyclopedia of American Horticulture (1910 edition) states, "These papers have a higher literary quality than is usual in horticultural writings, and are still entertaining and suggestive. They did much to spread the taste for country life and gardening."

Today, Henry is unknown. His sister, Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of Uncle Tom's Cabin is still mentioned in today's high school texts. As an anti-slavery and pro-woman's suffrage Congregational minister in Brooklyn New York, Henry became the "Billy Graham" of the mid 1800's. His wide range of interests, including his long term goal of "civilizing" the American farm made his sermons less theological and more practical than those of his peers.

To give you a brief taste of his writings (and hit close to home?):

"It is not altogether cleanly to use one's knife to scrape boots, to cut harness, to skin cats, to cut tobacco, and then to cut apples which other people are to eat." (page 36)

"It is very surprising to see how slow men are to take a hint. The frost destroys about half the bloom on the fruit trees; everybody prognosticates the loss of fruit; instead of that, the half that remains is larger, fairer, and higher flavored than usual; and the trees instead of being exhausted, are ready for another crop the next year. Why don't the owner take the hint and thin out his fruit every bearing year? But no; the next season sees his orchard overloaded, fruit small, and not well formed; yet he always boasts of that first-mentioned crop without profiting by the lessons it teaches." (page 182)

What do you think of Henry Ward Beecher's one-hundred and thirty year old wisdom? Does it stand the test of time?

Dave Battey - Monte Vista Farm, Snoqualmie

WESTERN CASCADE TREE FRUIT ASSOCIATION
9210 131st N.E.
Lake Stevens, WA 98258

Bulk Rate
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Marysville, WA 98270
Permit No. 16



Address Correction Requested

DICK & MARILYN
TILBURY
4916 52ND AVE S
SEATTLE

DEC90

WA 98118

Dear Friends,

On January 23, my sabbatical leave to New Zealand will begin at the DSIR Research Station, Private Bag, Havelock North, N.Z. While there, I will be involved in the fruit breeding program under the direction of Allan White. In addition, it is hoped we can arrange to export some strawberry plants to Gary Moulton for planting in March, April, and May in Mount Vernon in an attempt to find out how strawberries respond when their season is reversed.

Havelock North is on the North Island, near Hastings and Napier and is in the primary tree fruit region of the country. We intend to be there until about June 15, then back to Mount Vernon for one year before my official retirement on July 1, 1991.

In my absence, Gary Moulton will be responsible for our program. He'll have plenty to do managing plots at Mount Vernon, Wenatchee, and Prosser. Jacky King will continue to assist him on a part-time basis.

If possible, come visit us in New Zealand. "She's a great little country" as they say down there. If you need to contact Gary regarding the research here, give him a call. If it's something I need to be involved in, he can FAX a note to me very quickly.

With best wishes for a happy holiday
and for a fruitful year in 1990,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Bob'.

Robert A. Norton
Horticulturist