

Drip Zone Hero

*Fruit Guild
Allstar Lupine*

the Urban Scion Post

a publication of the Seattle Tree Fruit Society,
a chapter of the Western Cascade Fruit Society

Dear STFS members,

I'm glad that some of you were able to attend our joint (with the Snohomish County Fruit Club) Spring Grafting Event held back on March 25th at the Rosehill Community Center in Mukilteo. It was a great event, at a fabulous venue. The grafting class led by STFS member Ingela Wanerstrand sold out early, which leads us to believe that there is the potential to offer possibly two such events next year. However, one aspect of this event that



Well-attended grafting class led by Ingela W.

we are aware of is the location.

It seems to be a little bit out of the travel range of many members. The goal was to try to make it equidistant for both Snohomish & Seattle club members. But I feel that we didn't succeed, at least for Seattle club members. We aspire to select a more appropriate location for our next event. Another option might be to rotate locations each year, so that such an event can be accessible to more.

I thanked our volunteers in March, but they should again be recognized for their commitments. As usual, Lori Brakken and Laure Jansen did a fantastic job of procuring scionwood. It is such a benefit to



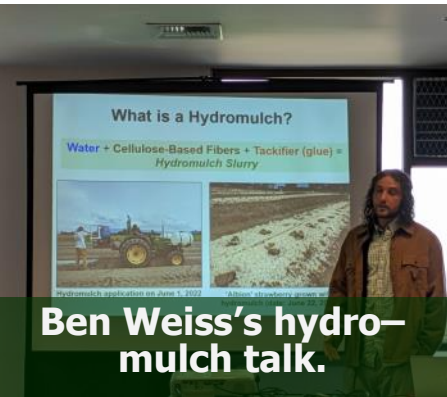
Ingela W. giving graft demo.

have access to the various unusual varieties that they are able to source. Judy Scheinuk prepared and brought refreshments for volunteers. Board members la Dubois and Melinda McBride sold Maggot Barriers and answered general questions. Board member Tracey Bernal as well as Barb Burrill and Larry Crum helped with scionwood and rootstock selection. Board member Ed Scullywest and STFS life member Bill Davis helped graft trees. Member Bob Baines gave a well-received presentation about IPM (integrated pest management) as well.



Bill Davis making custom graft.

On April 8th, STFS also co-sponsored an event with the Snohomish County Fruit Society. It was a Blueberry Pruning seminar at an active blueberry farm outside of Duvall. The instructor was Keith Stocker, who owns and operates, along with his family, a commercial blueberry farm in Snohomish called "Mountainview Farm." Keith's presentation was superb, and we all learned a lot. There were 17 people in attendance, including five from our club. The event was held at Blueberry Glenn Farm, which was an old farm that had been abandoned for many years. It was recently purchased by a couple who are doing their best to refurbish the operation and restore the farm's productivity. They have over 1,000 blueberry bushes and have revitalized a good portion of the acreage and started a U-Pick operation. The large plants, many of which were over 70 years old, provided a unique challenge to the class attendees, all of which were given an opportunity to adapt their new-found pruning knowledge in a hands-on exercise on these plants.



Ben Weiss's hydro-mulch talk.

Finally, we mourn the passing of Dick Tilbury in early April. An integral member of the club for many years, he will be missed by all. Our condolences to his family and friends.

Yours Truly, Mike Ewanciw

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On the cover

Short-lived perennial [lupine](#) fixing nitrogen underneath a mutsu (Crispin) apple while also providing sustenance to [PNW bumble bees](#) and other pollinating insect populations. Or ditch commercial fruit plants for [An Edible Native Plant Guild for the Pacific Northwest - Permacultured Life](#). Photo taken 23 May '23 Port Orchard.

Blueberry Pruning Workshop by Ed Scullywest, STFS Board member. Thx, Ed.

The Seattle Tree Fruit Society and the Snohomish County Fruit Society held a joint meeting at a Blueberry Pruning workshop at [Blueberry Glenn Farm](#) (14355 Kelly Road NE, Duvall, WA 98019) on Sat. April 8. This date was a little late for ideal pruning, but with the chilly April, it may still be productive. Time will tell.

Blueberry Glenn is an 11-acre farm with over 1,000 blueberry bushes, some over 70 years old. The owners have recently purchased the farm and agreed to allow the workshop on their blueberry bushes. The instructor for the workshop was Keith Stocker, whose family owns and operates [Mountainview Blueberry Farm](#) and [Stocker Farms](#) in Snohomish, Washington. A total of 17 people attended, including five from STFS.

Keith Stocker was an excellent instructor, and class participants got to try their hand at pruning mature blueberry bushes.

The class worked in the blueberry bushes in the front yard, which had been pruned within the last couple of years. Various pruning strategies were discussed with some general outlines for the younger and older bushes. It was recommended for the young bushes to take off some older branches first, then work on the younger branches pruning about 25-35% off.

Pruning targets were 1) outlying branches that would interfere with the mowing path, 2) crossing branches, 3) the dead, 4) diseased or 5) down non-fruiting branches. The end result should be in the shape of a waffle cone, open center with upper branches growing out to maximize airflow and sunlight. The inside of the cone also produces quite a few blueberries with the sunlight reaching in.

On April 8, we started by selecting partners to pick a bush with. We put flagging tape on the branches we intended to prune then the class went from one bush to another. At your bush you explained your plan, then pruned. Everyone watched, learned and commented as the overgrown bushes turned into green cones.

Some of the old bushes in the back hadn't been pruned for at least ten years. They offered good exercise while pruning. The figure for branch removal in old bushes was 50%. More than 50% might harm future growth and potential. The old limbs were 3-4 inches and required a saw for removal. The ideal form remained the same, the open cone shape.

[Blueberry Glenn](#) has a large collection of blueberry bushes that will provide picking opportunities from early varieties to late varieties. They also offer, in season, summer flowers and vegetables. Visit [their website](#) for more infor-



Keith Stocker led pruning.



Before pruning, students flagged branches & explained strategy.



Overgrown bush pruned into green waffle cone.

Post-Graft: What to Expect by Laure Jansen. Thx, LJ.

Many of you joined us in March for a fun day of learning to graft. Did you go home and make up a few more grafted trees? If you're like me, you check your grafts often to see if the buds are emerging. Some green shoots pop out right away and are 4 inches tall already. Others linger (or is that "maligner"?), appearing to swell slightly but not actually sending out any shoots. Are these dead, you wonder? Should I wait another month before giving up on them? Should I remove all the leaves from the rootstock, hoping that all the sap will rise to the scion, giving those little buds enough energy to spring forth? Will removing these few leaves prevent photosynthesis and cause the whole rootstock to die? When should I remove the grafting bands and tape? Experts have varied answers, but there are some general rules you can follow for your new grafts.

Fruit trees store some amount of carbohydrate in last year's buds. These carbohydrates provide the energy for your scion to become active and bond with the rootstock and send out shoots. The scion also should contain enough moisture to allow the cambium cells to grow and bond with the rootstock. If your scion was well-hydrated, and the buds were plump with carbohydrates, they probably started to grow within a few weeks of grafting. However, sometimes the scion begins to grow leaves before the graft union develops enough to allow sap to flow upward to support the scion. These leaves will soon die if the graft union cannot

provide enough moisture and food. If your new grafts were kept in cold temperatures after grafting, it may take longer for the cambium to grow and for the buds to begin to leaf out. Stone fruit grafts seem to be more successful in warmer weather, so be patient and keep them humid and warm, but not in the direct sun.



Extra **Rescue** and **Orcas** pear scion grafted onto OHxF87 rootstock at 2022 STFS grafting event as of spring 2023 Port Orchard.

Recheck wax in three to five days.

Maintain a good seal on the graft.

The seal is your first line of defense against humidity loss. Your graft is a living, growing thing. Expansion and temperature changes overtime may crack your graft's wax seal or make improper tying apparent. Check your grafts regularly, especially after a major temperature or humidity change event. Reseal them as necessary.

Try to keep humidity high. Humid, but not wet. We don't want water droplets entering the graft; these can get between stock and scion and interrupt cambium contact. But dry air will draw water out of the graft and kill the scion. If you're outdoors, there's not a

lot you can do except try to have shade. Indoors, a water tray under your grafting area or, for the more hands-on, mist spraying nearby are ways to go.

Control temperature with high shade or other methods. If your grafts are out in the field and you can't move the plants around, it is a good idea to have them under a leafy canopy from a nearby tree or from branches of the rootstock that you

Post-Graft: What to Expect continued:

leave behind for the hotter summer, just to provide shade on the graft. Direct summer sun can heat-kill cells used to being shaded at that same time of year, especially your tender graft tissue. No canopy nearby? Consider building a temporary tent of shade cloth purchasable from nurseries. Even a white bedsheet hung from laundry lines may work.

Suppress root stock growth. The root stock is a plant with roots, stems, and leaves or buds capable of producing leaves. In order to keep the stock from sending all its energy to its own parts and not to the scion, you should prune off (or thumb out) rootstock growth before the graft union, including ground suckers. Do this quickly. Rootstock growth is wasted growth. However, if your scion had died without leafing out, continually removing all the leaves from the plant may prevent photosynthesis and cause the rootstock to die.

Watch for scion growth. Healthy growth from the scion means the graft union has taken. This is good

to know, but your work is not done. You will need to be careful for a weak union that could break in wind, and you need to keep directing as much stock energy as possible to the scion, via pruning.

Prevent girdling. Girdling happens when the growing scion expands and gets choked by the tight wrapping holding it in place. To prevent this, gently cut off the tape or string you tied with once your scion grows healthily. If the weather is still very warm, you may want to replace this seal to prevent dehydration.

Sources: Hartman, Hudson T. and Dale E Kester. Plant Propagation Principles and Practices. 7th Ed. 2002. *8th Ed. now available: [Plant Propagation Principles And Practices By Hartmann And Kester's \(8th Edition\) : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive](#)

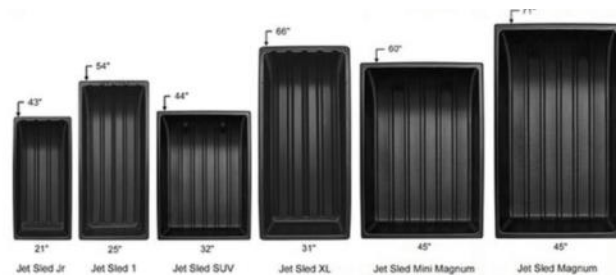
[WSU Extension Publications | Propagation of Plants by Grafting and Budding](#)

Ray R Rothenberger and Christopher J Starbuck. [Grafting | MU Extension \(missouri.edu\).](#)

Drag your **CHIPDROP**

After reading STFS Board member Ed S.'s article on arborist chips from ChipDrop, STFS member Joyce W. wrote to suggest sleds for moving chips around your yard. Writes Joyce, "... when I saw the article on chips I felt compelled

to let our group know about some marvelous sleds I've been using for years. The sled is a rugged black polyethylene sled – comes in a variety of sizes and prices. I found a couple online called [Shapell jet sled 1](#) 25" w x 54" l x 10" h – another one is called the [Gardner's summer Sled](#) 21" w x 43" l x 8" h - I had 30 yards of tree chips from some tree removal on my property last year – the sleds were perfect – used a short handled pitch fork to get the chips into the sleds – I put the chips on a 25' x 150' terraced area on my property – the sleds were easy to dump the chips out of - no lifting – moving all those chips took time but far quicker than moving a bunch of chips in a regular wheelbarrow or 5 gal bucket – also don't have to lift the chips as high to get them in the sled vs the wheelbarrow. I've had my sleds for 8 years – not showing any wear and tear yet though I'm not kind to them - have used them to move all sorts of gardening items - rocks, dirt, chips, tools - whatever – can't live without them. Just wanted to share how great the sleds are and how much they make yard work so much easier." [Thanks, Joyce.](#)



Chickens and the Home Orchard

by Ed Scullywest, STFS Board member. Thx, Ed.

Eggs in the grocery store today ranged up to over \$10 a dozen. Time to think about a flock of chickens.

The [Seattle Times](#) recently ran a book review, "[Under the Henfluence](#)" by [Tove Danovich](#) that researched some of the history of backyard chickens.

Here are some random thoughts and tips.

Do you have room for chickens? Probably. There are some city regulations but most places you can have a few. An unused shed, or a small coop can house a flock. We have a concrete base on a coop with cement wallboard which has been ratproof. Rats can gnaw through most moist wood.

Feed stores carry chicks this time of year, March-June. Locate your nearest feed store and go in and take a look around. For chicks you need bedding (we have used cedar shavings for about 2 months, but we are going to try shredded paper), a feeder, a waterer and a heat lamp. The feeder and waterer are sized for chicks, typically a quart of water and a small feeder tray that they fill up with nesting material frequently. Adult chickens will also need a feeder and waterer. Our waterer holds seven gallons and our feed trough holds 40 lb.s of feed.

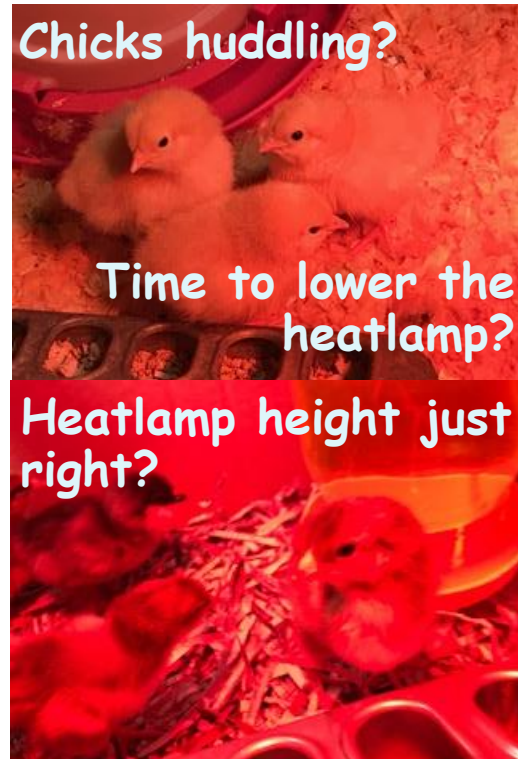
The heat lamp keeps the chicks warm until their feathers grow in. If they huddle directly underneath it, they are cold, lower it down. If they stay far away it's too low, it needs to be raised up. As they grow it gets moved up to accommodate chick growth.

Adult chickens are most comfortable at around 50 degrees, they don't get cold until it's below 10 degrees. Our coop is in the shade, summer heat is probably a bigger concern than cold in the winter.

Commercial feed for egg layers has 16% protein, vitamins, minerals and calcium to produce eggs. Your orchard in the spring and summer will also produce vegetation and bugs to supplement their feed. If there is plenty of gravel in the area they will pick it up, if not you may need to supply grit. If their eggshells start to feel thin, you may need to add some supplemental calcium, usually oyster shell.

Chickens love table scraps. Apple cores, wilted lettuce, carrot peels, melon rinds are all treats for your flock. There are a few things that they shouldn't eat like citrus and avocados. [Dr. Google](#) can help you out when you are in doubt.

Scratch is a form of chicken feed usually consisting of cracked corn and other types of grains. Chickens like it, but it's not a complete feed. To get them to go back in the coop, call for the chickens, they respond to voice



commands, then throw in a handful of scratch into the coop, stand back so they don't run you over.

Chickens are always digging and scratching the surface for tasty treats. This has the potential to damage shallow roots. There are various ways to discourage them from digging up the roots under your apple trees. Chicken wire laid on the ground will discourage digging allowing them to eat fallen fruit and the bugs under the tree. If fencing is in place when they are chicks they won't figure out how to fly over it even though they could. We use a 24 inch high welded wire fence that keeps them out. Chicken wire is flimsy, it can be added to fencing to reduce the size openings, but it doesn't stand up well on its own.

For chicken bedding we use peat moss after the first two months. Chicks will eat peat moss because it's dark when they are small and it's not good for them. We change it about every three months. We keep the peat moss in a cart until our plants are dormant then spread it around our blueberry bushes and raspberries. The peat moss provides acidity for the plants.

Egg laying commences when the sun shines over fourteen hours a day after they are six months old. The cycle in Seattle will be about April until October. You will get a few eggs over the winter, but not a lot. You can put a timed light in the coop to create the fourteen hours of light. This will provide you with eggs year round with occasional lapses. On this cycle hens will lay about three years productively, with sunlight only they may produce until they are older. The better breeds will lay over 250 eggs per year. They can live for many years so it's something to think about before you start a flock.

We keep all the eggshells in the freezer, then grind them up in a blender

in the spring. Grinding them produces smaller bits of eggshells which should break down easier. Fruit trees use quite a bit of calcium but with this process our soil tests show an adequate supply of calcium for growth and production of fruit.

There is a misconception that you need a rooster to have eggs. Not true. Most places ban roosters. You may not know if you have one until they grow up and start trying to crow. You don't want a rooster, your neighbors don't want a rooster.

What is a free range chicken? One that is not locked up and is free to come and go. One problem with free ranging chickens is that predators are also free ranging so your flock will get smaller over time. The Delaware chicken (the white one) in the photo was grabbed by a coyote less than ten feet away from me, but I couldn't stop it.



Delaware, Black Australop & 2 Rhode Island Reds

In addition to coyotes, bears, bobcats, cougars, raccoons, mink, weasels, otters, hawks and eagles all like chicken dinners. Rats also like food and water so we keep our coop locked up at night and let them into their outside enclosed fenced area (a Costco dog kennel with a cover) in the morning.

The roof on the kennel lets them be outside in the rain a somewhat common event here. Supply a roosting poll inside the coop and outside in the pen. An electric fence along the base of the outside of the kennel also discourages intrusions.



Costco dog kennel w/ cover



Electric fence @ kennel base

The roof in the yard lets them be outside in the rain a somewhat common event here. Supply a roosting poll inside the coop and outside in the pen. An electric fence along the base of the outside of the kennel also discourages intrusions.

anywhere from 1-3 hours a day. Over a few decades we have lost chickens to coyotes and dogs. Our neighbors had free range chickens that were picked off by eagles, coyotes, raccoons and bobcats. Usually when one chicken gets carried away the others are terrorized and will stop laying for a while.

Other hiccups in the egg line include molting, when they shed all their feathers and brooding. Brooding is when a hen decides it's time to raise chicks so it sits on the eggs until they hatch. Of course, without a rooster, they won't hatch. The brooding hen doesn't leave the nest much, so she doesn't eat or drink and the other chickens will stop laying when the brooder is on the nest. Some breeds are more prone to brooding than others. There are various solutions online, but we have found if you can keep her off the nest for 24 hours she may stop, or she may not. Rinse and repeat for another 24 hours as necessary.

In any flock there is one chicken on top and one on the bottom and the rest are in between, doesn't matter if you have 2 to a thousand, there is always a pecking order.

After a while you will learn to speak chicken. You'll learn the "alarm" calls when they spy a coyote or a hawk, the "annoyed" calls, like it's time to get out of here. The "I laid an egg" call. The "dog chasing" screams. The clucks, purrs and all manner of speech you never imagined before you could talk chicken.

Chickens all have different personalities. Some will want to follow you around, others ignore you. Some breeds are friendly and some are feisty. Backyard chicken owners on the internet can give you some clues about breeds to look for.

We let the chickens out when we are



If you're on the WCFS forum, you probably read a number of posts indicating that anthracnose was bad again in the PNW for spring 2023. Need help visually IDing anthracnose infections? Check out Greg G.'s informative article in [USP 40 07 2022 Jul](#) p 7-17. Above are 3 grafted apple trees that should have been transplanted several years ago already. The Rubinette variety on the left definitely had an anthracnose infection girdling the entire circumference of the leader. Hopefully, with pruning below the infection zone, this individual will recover since Rubinette apples apparently are very tasty.

STFS DEMO ORCHARD ORIGIN STORY

Thumbing through a stack of old USP newsletters revealed the following article "Magnuson Park Orchard Pruning Workshop" in USP Volume 28 Number 1 January 2010:

If you are interested in learning more about pruning fruit trees, join us at the Magnuson Park orchard on January 30th for discussion, demonstrations, and practice. For those of you not familiar with the orchard, it is a transition area of flowering trees. In the spring, the trees create a splash of color on the south side of The Brig. It is designed as a demonstration area where people can learn about growing fruit trees in small urban spaces. The orchard began with grafting workshops in which dwarf fruit trees, apple and pear, were prepared for the future orchard. The trees were placed in a temporary holding area of the pea (P) patch and were moved to the permanent orchard site when it was ready in the fall of 2003.

The orchard area was laid out in March 2003, the ground prepared, and irrigation was provided. Volunteers transplanted 28 apple trees, 9 pear trees, and four plum trees that had been grafted.



Vagn Jensen's mature multi-variety plum/mirabelle transplanted Mar '22 into demo orchard. Photo taken 10 May '23.

Some of the plum trees were purchased. Espalier panels were built between the orchard and the Children's Garden. They demonstrate 2 dimensional patterns applicable for small home garden fruit production. In the spring of 2004, the trees blossomed and started to bear fruit. Only a few the fruits were allowed to grow and ripen. In the early years, it is better to have energy spent on building up size rather than growing fruit. The exception is the Belgian fence where we will let the trees fruit fully in hopes that they will remain small. The espalier fences in the Magnuson Community Garden Orchard include the Belgian fence, planted with apples, another was planted with apples in a Palmettes Verrier pattern which is a series

of "U"s. A third is a fence of horizontal tiers with pears growing on it.

An apprentice program was planned as an educational component to the garden and to ensure that the orchard is properly cared for. The STFS January 30th pruning workshop will support that educational goal." USP 28 01 Jan 2010

Do Demo Orchard Participation Survey by 8/31/23

Following STFS board discussion on May 20th, Board member Melinda M. set up an online survey to gauge STFS member interest and potential involvement in demo orchard activities. Thanks, Melinda.

If you're inclined to participate, please complete the survey no later than August 31, 2023.

Results will be reviewed and hopefully will offer guidance for future STFS demo orchard activities.

Estimated survey completion time is 1 minute with a nearly 3-in-4 chance of completion.

Here's the link to the **STFS Demonstration Orchard Participation Survey**: [https://](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DCMQ9NZ)

www.surveymonkey.com/r/DCMQ9NZ

Easy Gluten Free Rhubarb Muffins

Contributed by Tracey Bernal

Adapted from [heartbeet kitchen](#), an interesting site for gluten free recipes. I picked this because I wanted something fast, and easy (and somewhat healthier due to the almond flour). Adapted from [heartbeet kitchen](#), an interesting site for gluten free recipes. I picked this because I wanted something fast, and easy (and somewhat healthier due to the almond flour).

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 Cup (180 grams) finely blanched almond flour**
- 1 Cup (120 grams) oat flour**
- 2/3 Cup (100 grams) coconut sugar**
- 1 teaspoon baking powder**
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda**
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt**
- 2 large eggs**
- 1/4 Cup maple syrup**
- 1/4 Cup milk**
- 1/4 Cup + 1 Tablespoon sunflower oil**
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract**
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom (this goes so well with rhubarb and almonds)**
- 1 1/2 Cup (150 grams) finely chopped rhubarb + 1 extra stalk for the topping**
- 1/4 Cup chopped raw almonds**

Tasks

- 1) Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.**
- 2) Prepare a 12 cup muffin tin with liners.**
- 3) Mix almond flour, oat flour, coconut sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt in a large bowl.**
- 4) In separate bowl, whisk together eggs, maple syrup, milk, oil, vanilla, cardamom.**
- 5) Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients, and stir to combine until no flour streaks remain.**
- 6) Fold in rhubarb.**
- 7) Use a large cookie scoop to add batter, almost near the top, of each liner.**
- 8) Cut diagonal pieces of rhubarb. Top each muffin with a wide slice, then sprinkle with crushed almonds.**
- 9) Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, depending on your oven's true temperature, until toothpick comes out clean. Let cool on a wire rack.**



BeeLine Editor still needed after long vacancy



BeeLine editor assembles the quarterly newsletter from other authors' articles. The 9 WCFS chapters are expected to provide content. BeeLine editor also needs to find additional content from other publications like Good Fruit Grower. Ideally, the new BeeLine editor is proficient with Microsoft Publisher which is similar to PowerPoint and other Office software. Past BeeLine editions are available for review at the WCFS website (www.WCFS.org) under the "Resources" tab. Marilyn Couture, former BeeLine editor, emailed on 6/12/21 that BeeLine editor activities are rewarding and educational to all. Marilyn offered some initial mentoring for the new editor. Interested? Contact Ron (email ronweston09@comcast.net) or Marilyn (email marilyncouture1@gmail.com) directly. Past editors have volunteered their time, but with the position still open now for many months, WCFS representatives may realize that a nominal stipend may be necessary to fill this position. You won't know if you don't ask.

& Still Needed NOW: WCFS Treasurer

Longtime WCFS Treasurer, Jerry Gehrke, had hoped to retire from this volunteer position effective January 2023, but a replacement hasn't been found yet. WCFS doesn't have the luxury of going without a WCFS Treasurer. Jerry will coach any potential replacement candidate on what the job entails and see that she or he is equipped with the knowledge to succeed. For now, it is imperative that WCFS find the person for Jerry to mentor. Interested? Or know of someone who might be? Please contact Ron Weston, WCFS President, directly via email (ronweston09@comcast.net) ASAP.

Free Rototiller to Good Home

Longtime STFS member Kiwibob has an older rototiller in his garage free to a STFS/WCFS member who wants to stop by and take it. Details: older (1970's-1980's vintage) front tyne Rototiller that hasn't been started up in about 20 years. If interested or needing more info, please contact Kiwibob at his email address (kiwibob2018@protonmail.com).

Good Home for your old, old Printed USPs

Upcycle your ancient printed USP newsletters. If you are doing some late spring cleaning and are about to recycle your old, old USP newsletters, please contact me (trelwing@gmail.com or 206.517.3118) instead so I can make arrangements to pick them up. No digitized archive of USP newsletters exists, but thankfully the library at UW's center for urban horticulture maintains an incomplete printed archive (which is inconvenient for me living in Port Orchard).

STFS: Who Are We & What We Do

Western Cascade Fruit Society (WCFS), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was founded in 1980 & is made up of nine Western Washington chapters, including STFS, full of helpful hobby orchardists & backyard fruit growers.

STFS members receive automatic membership in WCFS. WCFS publishes a quarterly BeeLine electronic newsletter to inform members of events, tours, articles & reports. WCFS provides other member services, including an online member forum, an online chapter-wide event calendar & an online home for chapter sites. See www.wcfs.org.

Seattle Tree Fruit Society (STFS) is a chapter of WCFS. The purposes of STFS are listed in Article II of STFS By-laws amended & restated as of 18 January 2014:

STFS will bring together people ...

- 1) to promote & stimulate interest in growing fruit bearing trees, shrubs & vines in urban areas,
- 2) to encourage propagation of desirable fruit varieties suited to the local climate,
- 3) to disseminate pertinent horticultural information to its members & the general public through the use of fruit shows, orchard tours, meetings, seminars, workshops, publications & other media,
- 4) to provide financial & other support to our area's fruit research and/or projects, &
- 5) to join with other organizations in promoting tree fruit in the Western Cascade region.

STFS members share an interest in growing fruit & nut trees, berries, kiwis, grapes & other fruit. We offer information on adapted varieties, current growing techniques & share our own experiences growing fruit.

STFS members meet monthly from Sept to May usually in-person on a Saturday morning in Seattle's Magnuson Park. In-person meetings typically include speakers presenting on topics such as grafting, pruning, pest control, plant health & fruit preservation tailored to Western Washington growers. STFS members receive both the STFS online monthly newsletter Urban Scion Post (USP) & the WCFS online quarterly BeeLine. STFS is online at www.seattletreefruitsociety.com and www.facebook.com/SeattleTreeFruitSociety/

The STFS membership is Seattle Tree Fruit Society. The goals of STFS are achieved by STFS members. Please contact STFS representatives listed in this newsletter and communicate what STFS can do for you and what you can do for STFS. When more STFS members get involved, STFS does more & attracts more STFS members who get involved.

Background: Blossoms of probably [Jubilee Rosa Rugosa](#) 31 May '23 Port Orchard. From Raintree Nursery: Like other rugosa cultivars in hardiness and size. Selected for its fruit, Jubilee produces an abundance of meaty rose hips and loads of beautiful reddish purple single flowers.

Seattle Tree Fruit Society

seattletreefruitsociety@gmail.com

www.seattletreefruitsociety.com

www.facebook.com/SeattleTreeFruitSociety/

PRESIDENT Mike Ewanciw 206.683.9665
(2-year term expires Jan 2025)

VICE PRES. Tracey Bernal 206.913.3778
(2-year term expires Jan 2025)

SECRETARY Vacant—please volunteer
(2-year term expires Jan 20??)

TREASURER Trent Elwing 206.517.3118
(2-year term expires Jan 2025)

MEMBERSHIP Trent Elwing 206.517.3118

HOSPITALITY Judy Scheinuk 206.200.1483
scheinukj@gmail.com

STFS DIRECTORS

#1 - Laure Jansen

(3-year term expires Jan 2024)

#2 - Linda Sartnurak 425.271.6264

noilinda@yahoo.com

(3-year term expires Jan 2024)

#3 - Ed Scullywest 425.286.4030

(3-year term expires Jan 2024)

#4 - Melinda McBride

(3-year term expires Jan 2026)

#5 - John Roach

(3-year term expires Jan 2025)

#6 - Ia Dubois

(3-year term expires Jan 2026)

#7 - Vacant—please volunteer

(3-year term expires Jan 20??)

USP NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Trent Elwing treling@gmail.com

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Orchard - Vacant—please volunteer

Events - Vacant—please volunteer

Programs - Vacant—please volunteer

NEW MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL FORM

Seattle Tree Fruit Society

www.seattletreefruitsociety.com

A Chapter of the Western Cascade Fruit Society

www.wcfs.org

Name:

Phone:

Address:

City, State, ZIP:

Email address:

DUES (includes STFS and Western Cascade Fruit Society)

New Member – Regular Rate – \$25	_____
New Member – Limited Income or Student Rate – \$15	_____
Renewing – Regular Rate – \$25	_____
Renewing – Limited Income or Student Rate – \$15	_____
Optional: Donation to support fruit research (\$5 min)	+ _____
Optional: Donation (other purpose) (\$5 min)	+ _____
TOTAL	_____

make checks payable to STFS., and mail with this form to:

STFS, c/o Trent Elwing,
1035 Alaska Ave E, Port Orchard, WA 98366

Our STFS club is run by and for our members - volunteers make things happen. If you would like to help, contact any Officer or Board member (see your newsletter) or email seattletreefruitsociety@gmail.com

How do I know when my annual STFS membership will expire?

Back in March 2020 before the COVID-19 pandemic took hold, printed USP newsletters were USPS-mailed, and the STFS membership renewal date was printed above the mailing address of each member’s hardcopy printed newsletter.

To minimize spread of the coronavirus causing COVID-19, USP newsletters are now electronic and emailed. A reminder to renew your STFS membership no longer is printed above the mailing address.

Depending upon when a STFS member joins, annual memberships expire at the end of March, June, September or December each year.

Trent Elwing, STFS membership coordinator, will email STFS members one month prior to an expiring STFS membership reminding of the need to renew shortly and how to renew.

**Need to know now? Contact Trent
(phone/text: 206.517.3118 email: trelwing@gmail.com)**