
The Grapevine

WINTER 2009 ♦ JOURNAL OF THE MIDWEST FRUIT EXPLORERS ♦ VOL. 33 No 4

December Message 2009

January Business Meeting - Sunday, January 10, 2010 - 1:00 pm

Springbrook Nature Center, Itasca, IL

We've traditionally used the January Meeting for 1) MidFEx business and 2) gustatory pleasure. A time to share our orchard and garden rewards in the form of preserved fruits and baked desserts. We certainly don't want to change that. This year we'll give it some balance with a preliminary course of soups (yours) and fresh bread, a modest unofficial end to the over-eating season. Soooooo...we'll need at least 6 members to each cook up a half gallon or so of their favorite soup or chili. Let me know via phone (Phil-708-333-2679), email (hahnx5@aol), or post on the forum if you are volunteering for soup duty. We can have more than six...but we'll need at least six. If you're not bringing a fruit dish, consider soup. MidFEx will provide crackers, beverages and disposable tableware. Bringing food to this meeting is in no way mandatory, we mostly want to attract critical mass for a good time. Let's fill the room with members. There is ample space but there may be a shortage of chairs — so bring a folding chair if you have one. Business and pleasure are on the agenda. Number one is election of officers. A summary of officer duties is on Page 6.

We'll start with food at 1:00pm. If we have enough new photos to show (arrrrrr YOU still taking PICTURES? - note below) we'll run a slide show loop as we sup. If not ... we'll just sup and chat. At 2:00 we'll settle into the business meeting. Anyone with additional agenda items please let me know.

Not having the January meeting at the Botanic Garden allows for more flexibility with less formality. If this winter soup dinner feels like something worth perpetuating we'll do so and solicit suggestions for future locations. There are innumerable meeting venues available in the six county Chicago area, but unfortunately, few permit carry-in food. The downside of many fine spaces are either: food (sorry, no food), cost (unreasonable) and Sundays (building closed). Many libraries, for instance, have very fine meeting rooms at nominal cost (with A/V equipment!), but no food *please*. So keep your eyes open for appropriate meeting space in locations central to our membership.

Are You STILL Taking Pictures?

Hopefully, you've continued to take pictures of your homesteading efforts. If you have some good summer shots, go out now and take the same shot with snow. Scenes, close-ups, oddities, etc. See the September Grapevine for other photo suggestions. There will be a forum call for submissions a week before the Jan. 10 meeting. If there's enough response we'll have a digital projector/screen set up to view. We'll rent a projector unless some one has one to volunteer. *Phil*

SCION WOOD DONORS NEEDED 2010 Cutting Window Late February - Early March

MidFEx is dependent on its members to provide the wide variety of scion wood available at our grafting workshops. Success of the graft is largely the result of the care given to the harvesting and storage of the scion wood. Plan to cut your scion wood in the weeks prior to the grafting workshops. *See the game rules on Page 7.*

Scion....pronounced....sigh'-un

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2009 HARVEST FRUIT FESTIVAL STATEMENT

10/17/09 – 10/18/09

Gross Receipts	5,453.75
Expenses:	
62.5 cases of apples	1,360.00
275 pounds of pears	283.50
10 cases of cider apples	60.00
150 ½ gallons of apple cider	337.50
252 pints of apple and peach butter	528.00
4 Landscaping With Fruit books	54.28
9 Uncommon Fruit books	113.49
1 apple peelers	16.51
2 apple wedgers	6.52
576 ½ peck apple bags	90.66
Handouts (dwarfing, grafting, care, etc.)	62.49
Bags, plates, crackers, tasting cups, etc.	201.61
Chicago Botanic Garden Commission	233.92
Total Expenses	3,348.48
Net Income	\$2,105.27

Minnesota Apple Growers Meeting Jan. 5, 6 & 7 • La Crosse, WI

The Minnesota Apple Growers meeting is Jan. 6&7, 2010 in La Crosse, Wisconsin. MidFEx members may attend without paying an individual conference fee. Your Grapevine serves as your member card. Several members went a few years ago and learned from the excellent presenters. Dr. Bedford of the U. of MN. Apple program is always on the agenda. Other topics usually revolve around insect management, pruning, nutrient needs, marketing, etc. The marketing sessions aren't too cogent for most in our group but Dr. Bedford is worth the trip all by himself. This year's agenda has not been posted yet so there's no telling what other speakers will present this year but a look at the forms still posted from the previous years will give a flavor (pun intended) to the meeting. Besides the meeting itself, La Crosse is beautiful at this time of year with hundreds of eagles congregating around the open waters of the Mississippi river framed in 600 ft. snow covered bluffs. La Crosse is about a four hour drive from the Libertyville area and the Amtrak stops here once each way everyday.

Questions? Contact member Chris Andersen at 608-785-0032 or amvjca@aol.com.

Here's the web address for MAGA:

[http://www.minnesotaapple.org/
minnesota_wholesale_orchards_fact_sheet.shtml](http://www.minnesotaapple.org/minnesota_wholesale_orchards_fact_sheet.shtml)

Grapevine December 2009

MIDFEX HARVEST FESTIVAL 2009

MICHAEL ZOST

Congratulations to all MidFex members who participated in this year's successful Harvest Festival the weekend of October 17th and 18th at the Chicago Botanic Gardens. We had a great turnout of volunteers, which really made the event go more smoothly and build a wonderful sense of friendship and community. Unfortunately, our sales numbers weren't as strong as they were the last two years. Several factors contributed to this. These include a rainy Saturday where sales were down, the economy, and the Chicago Botanic Gardens having a small Farmer's Market going on concurrently with our Festival. Fortunately Sunday's better weather provided brisker sales and all visitors really enjoyed our new additions of Oriana's three different varieties of Asian Pears and Arnold and Sherwin Dubren's home grown Hudson Golden Gem Apples. It is always a treat for me to see our visitors' eyes light up and the smile come across their face as they took a taste of one of our incredible samples of apples, pears, fruit butters, or fresh hand pressed cider. We had a number of visitors so inspired, that they signed up as new members.

On a positive note, Stephanie Lindemann of the Chicago Botanic Gardens, spoke with our Gene Yale and has suggested that the Gardens set up a private special tasting for their President's Circle donors on Saturday morning of our event next year. This could be a big boost of exposure for MidFex and remind the Chicago Botanic Gardens what a valuable asset we are to them and their members.

As always, a big thanks to Ron Malcom, Al Cosnow, Gene Yale, Arnold and Sherwin Dubren, and Oriana Kruszewski for sharing your fruit for our displays, for your expertise and knowledge you share with visitors and being at the Festival all three days. To Mike Modde, Craig Evankoe., Robin and Jennifer Guy, and all volunteers for Friday's set up, offering samples of fruit, fruit butters, and cider both sale days and Sunday's tear down, I thank you for your commitment to this wonderful event. We really have terrific people in MidFex and I had a great time with all of you. A double-special thanks goes out to Chris Holland, the co-chair on the event, who really made my job a breeze and had great suggestions to make things move more smoothly. He was the physical workhorse for set up and tear down. I look forward to working with Chris to make next year even better.

The Grapevine

It is important for a group such as ours to keep in touch with each other by traditional means. Email has a lot of advantages: immediacy, paper free, attachments, links, etc., but there's a good chance that when it comes to dates, events and directions...

you heard it through the Grapevine
...in your mailbox...four times a year...

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Stone Fruit Notes

Bob Purvis

I've been bench-grafting stone fruit now for over 15 years and still do not consider that I know everything there is to know about it. Regarding cherries, the consensus among the nurserymen I know is that spring grafting of cherries works best when the trees are dormant and it is cold. For cherry bench grafts, it seems that temperatures of 40 to 45F for storage are best, so that the buds do not begin to move before a union is formed.

For plums, Cummins Nursery in NY told me that they keep plum bench grafts at 40 to 45F, but I have had good success with holding plum bench grafts at temperatures of 55 to 65F, so as with so many other things, plums seem to be adaptable.

For apricots, Garfield next door has field-grafted them when the rootstock buds are just beginning to swell and had a good take rate. (But, we are in a Zone 7 climate here, and it warms up quickly in April.) For bench grafts, temperatures around 65 to 70F are adequate to promote callusing for Canadian and other cold-hardy apricots, Jerseycot, and Alfred, but any apricot that requires a fair amount of sustained heat before it breaks dormancy--Brookcot, Montrose, Afghanistan, Suphany, and Zard--really needs to be kept at warmer temperatures (70 to 80F). I was using a hot-callusing tube at those temperatures, laying the graft unions on the slots thereon and covering the rootstocks' roots with sawdust. Unfortunately, when you find a graft has taken and you remove it from the sawdust, a lot of new hair roots get broken; and when you plant the graft out in the field, the rootstock has to form roots all over again. This can result in transplant shock for the scion. In spite of this, I had a 75% "take" rate on my apricot grafts in 2008. But, I lost 64 of 65 after planting them in the field late (early June), with complications of high levels of sodium and boron and imperfect irrigation. Poor care of rootstocks this spring resulted in a success rate of only about 25% on my apricot and plum bench grafts.

Justin Martin, a Nebraska horticulturist and member of the Apricot Interest Group, shared with me what I consider a better method than mine. He chip-buds the rootstocks, bundles them so the chips are not broken off, and then puts the roots in plastic bags with no mulch around them, wetting them down and keeping the new chip-buds inside the bag. He lets the tops of the rootstocks sit in the open air and keeps the bags at 70 to 75F (on top of his refrigerator). Every other day, he opens the bags and sprays the roots with water so they stay moist. Justin said that after 10-14 days, 132 of 139 chips' buds had turned green. At that point (early April), he planted the budded rootstocks in the field and cut them off just above the bud. Inside the bag, the rootstocks formed root initials, but

since the roots were in air, they did not develop roots. Once the rootstocks were put in soil, roots began to develop rapidly, judging from development of the tops. One minor drawback is that after 10-14 days in a moist warm environment, mold begins to develop on the roots. However, with the tops of the rootstocks beginning to break bud, there is a flow of sap past the chip and good cambial activity to promote a bud union. Furthermore, there is not the perplexing problem of what to do with suckers that often arise below a graft union, nor the breakage of root hairs after removal from sawdust or sand. So, I intend to try this technique next spring with at least some of my apricot grafts and perhaps compare it with my current method.

Concerning spring propagation of peaches, I believe Justin's technique would work well as long as the chip-buds are kept very warm (ideally, 75-85F). I have never had success bench-grafting peaches in the spring, but Bob Kurlle and other people have been able to. The worst thing I find about dormant peach scions is that they have a punky interior, and it is very difficult to make whip and tongue cuts on them, and therefore difficult to make a good graft.

Deformed fruit can oftentimes result from imperfect pollination, something that I would suspect is a major problem with pears when the weather is cool during bloom. I don't know of any viruses other than stony pit that would cause the symptoms you mentioned. Sometimes frost can cause deformed fruit also. Ideally an apple or pear should have 10 seeds, two per carpel. Take notice the seed counts on your most deformed fruit. That would tell a lot.

So, I hope what I have written will be of help to you and others in MidFex. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,
Sincerely, Bob Purvis



Cutting the tongue on a whip and tongue graft

APPLE ROOTSTOCK FACT SHEETS

Cornell University publishes a comprehensive list of commercial apple rootstocks at:

<http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/hort/breeders/appleroots/Factsheets/FSAccess.htm>

Following is a summary of the info for the apple rootstocks available at the spring grafting workshops

M27	(Malling 27)
Tree Size	CLASS 1-2 (10-20% of standard size tree)
Pedigree	M.13 x M.9, 1929
Precocity	Very precocious
Productivity	High, under ideal conditions
Fruit Size	Fruit size can be small with M.27
Fruit Quality	Generally fine
Anchorage	Poor, support required
Fire blight	Highly susceptible
Crown & Root Rots	Considered resistant
Woolly Apple Aphid	
Powdery Mildew	Moderately susceptible
Observations	M.27 can be a good choice for use in high density plantings by experienced growers on sites with high fertility and vigor when using large fruited, vigorous scion varieties. Other uses are not recommended due to extremely low vigor of the rootstock. M.27 is susceptible to simazine in the nursery. Irrigation is always recommended for M.27 orchards.

M26	(Malling 26)
Tree Size	CLASS 4 (40-45% of standard size tree)
Pedigree	M.16 x M.9, 1929
Precocity	Precocious
Productivity	High
Fruit Size	Good
Fruit Quality	Generally fine, good coloring
Anchorage	Good, support recommended at least for early growth
Fire blight	Extremely susceptible
Crown & Root Rots	Variably susceptible (conflicting reports)
Woolly Apple Aphid	Susceptible
Powdery Mildew	Moderately resistant
Observations	Partial incompatibility with some cultivars, including Blaxtayman and Holiday, may occur. Somewhat drought susceptible, but also sensitive to <i>Phytophthora spp.</i> induced root rots, so irrigation and good drainage are essential. M.26 is a good choice for high density plantings in poorer soils and/or for less vigorous scion varieties in areas where fire blight can be managed. M.26 is a risky choice for use with fire blight susceptible scion cultivars in any region. In some locations M.26 produces a smaller tree than M.9.

BUD9	(Budagovsky 9, B9)
Tree Size	CLASS 3 (30-40% of standard size tree)
Pedigree	M.8 X Red Standard
Precocity	Very precocious
Productivity	High, under the correct conditions
Fruit Size	Typically large fruited
Fruit Quality	Good, high coloring
Anchorage	Poor, requires support
Fire blight	Not adequately tested, but it may be more tolerant to field infections of fire blight than M.9
Crown & Root Rots	Claimed to be resistant, more resistant than M.9 in some trials.
Woolly Apple Aphid	Susceptible
Powdery Mildew	Susceptible
Observations	Bud.9 is probably a good choice for use in high density plantings, especially in areas where extremely low midwinter temperatures are possible. The late fall and early spring hardiness of Bud.9 has not been sufficiently tested. In some trials B.9 has shown better resistance to the rootstock phase of fire blight than M.9, in other trials they have had similar reactions. B.9 is a strong competitor to M.9, and appears to be gaining in popularity in North America.

Mark	(MAC.9, Michigan Apple Clone 9)
Tree Size	CLASS 2-3 variable (25-30% of standard size tree)
Pedigree	Open pollinated seedling
Precocity	Very precocious
Productivity	Highly productive in the appropriate sites with careful management
Fruit Size	Typically large fruited
Fruit Quality	Good, high coloring
Anchorage	Requires support, very strong support when planted with triploid scion cultivars due to poor graft union strength. With most scions MARK is better anchored than other similarly dwarfing roots.
Fire blight	Susceptible
Crown & Root Rots	Tolerant, further testing required
Woolly Apple Aphid	Susceptible
Powdery Mildew	Moderately susceptible
Observations	Root Mass Proliferation (RMP) is the name of the syndrome often observed in older trees on Mark. RMP is a tumorous swelling at the ground line or belowground that is often observed in this rootstock, and accounts for its highly variable performance both within and between orchards. RMP often results in a lack of uniformity in fields. Mark is also particularly drought sensitive, and irrigation is recommended even in areas where it is usually considered optional. On the proper site Mark can be a very productive rootstock, as numerous Michigan growers have experienced. Overcropping on young trees must be avoided to prevent "runting out" - permanent loss of vigor from the trees. Mark is particularly sensitive to fire blight.

ORDER ROOTSTOCK NOW

The workshops are one of the principal educational benefits of being a fruit explorer. Each year we aim to have fewer “extra” rootstock available at the workshops so order 2 or 3 times as many trees as you think you have space for. This increases the probability of your success and is an inexpensive course to becoming an experienced grafter. Any surplus of successfully grafted trees make truly unique gifts. Even the unsuccessfully grafted trees are useful for learning about summer budding.

The rootstocks available for the grafting workshops this year are:

Apple:

- M27:** The most dwarfing apple rootstock - about 15% (usually 4 - 6 feet) of standard size tree at maturity. Requires permanent support of stake or trellis.
- BUD 9:** Develops into a tree about 30% - 35% of standard at maturity. Developed in Russia. Very hardy. Requires staking.
- MARK:** Develops into a tree about 30% of standard at maturity. Developed at Michigan State. Should be staked when young and on exposed sites.
- M26:** Develops into a tree about 40% of standard at maturity. Somewhat susceptible to fireblight. Should be staked when young and on exposed sites.

Pear:

- OHXF333:** Compatible with European and Asian varieties. About 50% - 70% of standard pear tree size at maturity.
- OHXF97:** Compatible with European and Asian varieties. Vigorous, standard size rootstock. Oriana prefers this for Asian varieties.
- Quince C:** Perhaps the most dwarfing at about 30%. Good for espalier. Very precocious. Compatible with many European pears. List of compatible varieties will be available at the workshops.

Plum:

- Krymsk 1:** About 50% dwarfing. Reported compatible with plums, apricots, peaches, and nectarines. Stone fruit is more successfully grafted when it is warmer. We offer it here for those who will take them home and graft or bud later. Beginning grafters are more likely to have success grafting apple and pear.

Prices are \$3.00 each for orders received by January 31st. Rootstock ordered after January 31st **or** at the grafting workshops will be \$4.00 each and selection may be limited. All the rootstock is bare root. **Warning – the past few years we have sold out of some rootstock varieties at the workshops. If you want to be sure to get some then place your order now.**

- Ordered items may be picked up at the grafting workshops.
- Scion wood contributed by members also will be available at the workshops.

2010 GRAFTING WORKSHOP— ROOTSTOCK REQUEST FORM	
NAME: _____	PHONE: _____

QUANTITY	ITEM	PRICE EACH	TOTAL
GRAND TOTAL			

Please bring the order with payment to the January meeting or mail to:	
Jeff Postlewaite Midwest Fruit Explorers P.O. Box 93 Markham, IL 60428-0093	Questions? (708) 596-7139 or Jeff@FrugalFarm.com

MidFEx Officer Responsibilities

Serving as a MidFEX officer is not difficult, but it does take some time. As an officer there is always the option to delegate the bits and pieces of the necessary legwork (phonework really) to others. The president must focus his/her MidFEX thoughts several months ahead of our more-or-less fixed calendar and adjust or add to it based on tradition, input from members and personal interests. Current officers always have former officers and long-time members to consult on virtually any matter. Be part of the January 10th meeting as a contributor, voter, nominee, etc. by being present. It's the best time to address/discuss new ideas and comment on the past years' events, projects and calendar. Cold weather and hot soup for all.

From our **Midwest Fruit Explorer** Bylaws, officer responsibilities read as follows:

PRESIDENT – Principal executive officer of MidFEX, Chairman of Executive Committee, *ex-officio* member of all committees.

VICE PRESIDENT – Chairman of the Program Committee and performs duties and has powers of President in absence or inability of President. Advisor for: the Picnic Committee, the Harvest Festival Committee and MidFEX Photographs and MidFEX History

SECRETARY – Takes the minutes of the meetings, chairs the Education and Publication Committee. Advisor for: the *Grapevine* and other publications, the Grafting and Propagating Committee and Lectures and Tours.

TREASURER – Performs all duties of treasurer, chairs the Finance Committee, and maintains the Membership

Officer Posts to be filled in January 2010:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary

2010 Volunteers needed for:

- Grapevine Publishing
- Membership Assistant
- Picnic Chairperson

"Pawpaw - Mystery Fruit in Our Midst"

Speaker: Ken Drabik
Kurle Memorial Lecture, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe
2:00 pm February 7, 2010

MidFEX member Ken Drabik is a biologist at the University of Chicago with an avid interest in Pawpaws. For the past several years Ken has been a presenter and speaker at the annual Ohio Pawpaw Festival held each September near Albany, Ohio. He works closely with Pawpaw experts Dr. Kirk Pomper of Kentucky State University and Neal Peterson of Peterson Pawpaws. Ken generously provided the Pawpaw seedlings that were available at the spring grafting workshops.

MidFEx Recipe Collection

In addition to this reminder about our forthcoming recipe book (cookbook?) we'll be asking for recipe titles at our 2010 get-togethers. As soon as you read this, make a mental note of one or two personal favorites. If they are ones that you've tasted but not actually prepared yourself, seek out the source for a copy and preparation hints. If there is a story or a historical note tied to the recipe, please consider it for inclusion.

Apple Crisp A Perennial Favorite

This apple crisp is sweet and simple to prepare, but uses very little added sugar.

INGREDIENTS

- 3 medium 'baking' apples, cored, sliced thin
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 2 Tbsp sugar
- 2 Tbsp flour

Topping:

- 1 cup quick oats
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 2 Tbsp shortening, butter or margarine

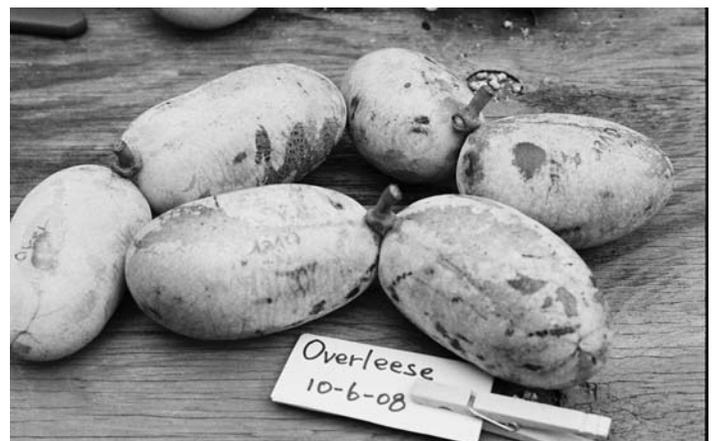
DIRECTIONS:

Lightly spray a 9-inch (square or round) baking dish with vegetable oil spray.

Mix first four ingredients and place into the baking dish.

In small bowl, mix topping ingredients until crumbly. Sprinkle topping over the apples.

Bake at 325° F until apples are soft and topping is golden brown (about 30 minutes). Number of Servings: 9



Pawpaw: North America's largest native tree fruit

Spring Brook Nature Center

January 10, 2009 MidFEx Meeting

Driving Directions:

Spring Brook Nature Center is located in Itasca on the south side of Irving Park Rd. just east of I-290. There is no exit from I-290 to Irving Park Rd.

The simplest directions from I-290 are:

- Exit I-290 at Thorndale Rd.
- Take Thorndale Rd east 1.1 miles to Prospect Ave
- Take Prospect Ave south 1.2 miles to Irving Park Rd
- Take Irving Park Rd west .9 miles to Maple St
- Take Maple St south to Grove St (1st right)
- Take Grove St west to Spring Brook Nature Center parking lot on South side of Grove St.

Spring Brook also has their own directions page at:
<http://www.itasca.com/index.aspx?NID=470>

Web Crawling

Check out the latest news story on Gene Yale's backyard orchard:

<http://news.medill.northwestern.edu/chicago/news.aspx?id=145745&print=1>

Wild apples of Kazakstan - A slide show

From: Bill Scheffler

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/8305211.stm>

Also here is a terrific article written by Gary Nabhan titled *'The Fatherland of the Apple'* with 15 terrific photos, some showing whole apple forests (!) and wild apples that are supermarket ready. Amazing.

The text is an excerpt from Gary's book and is lengthy and interesting.

<http://www.orionmagazine.org/index.php/articles/article/2961/>

SCION WOOD Cutting Window—Late February, Early March

MidFEx is dependent on its members to provide the wide variety of scion wood available at our grafting workshops. Success of the graft is largely the result of the care given to the harvesting and storage of the scion wood. Please observe the following guidelines when contributing scion wood:

- Cut scion wood only from trees that are free from disease and that have fruited.
- Cut the wood while it is still fully dormant before the buds start to swell, preferably not more than 2 - 3 weeks before the workshops.
- Cut only last years new growth that is the thickness of a pencil or slightly less. Water sprouts make excellent scion wood.
- Scion wood should be cut into 4 - 8 inch lengths with at least 3 buds per stick.
- Label the bundle (or ideally each stick) with the variety name.
- Roll the bundle of scion wood in plastic (i.e.: Saran Wrap) and after the first couple of rolls insert a strip of damp paper toweling then finish rolling the bundle in plastic. The paper toweling should not be wet but just damp. The paper towel must not be in direct contact with the scion wood.
- Refrigerate. Ideally, apples and bananas should not be refrigerated with the scion wood. They give off ethylene gas that may induce the buds to open.

Your membership may be expiring! Check your Grapevine address label for your membership expiration date. If it says "12/31/09" or earlier, then it is time to renew. Mail the form below.

-----cut here-----

MidFEx Membership Application

New Member

Renewing Member

Name (please print)			
Address		City	State
Telephone		E-Mail	

Amount Enclosed: \$15 (1 Year) \$25 (2 Years) \$30 (3 Years)

Mail to: MidFEx Membership
P.O. Box 93
Markham, IL 60428-0093

The above information (name, address and phone only) will appear in our Members' Only Directory (June issue) and is never sold or rented to outside interests.

2010 MidFEx Calendar

January 10, 2010 (Sun)	1:00 pm - 4:00pm - Annual Business Mtg and Soup Bowl luncheon; Springbrook, Itasca
February 7, 2010 (Sun)	2:00 pm Kurle Memorial Lecture, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe Speaker: Ken Drabik " Pawpaw - Mystery Fruit in Our Midst "
February 12, 2010	Submissions due for spring 2010Grapevine
March 14, 2010 (Sun)	Grafting workshop, Cantigny Gardens, Wheaton
March 21, 2010 (Sun)	Grafting Workshop, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe
April 18, 2010 (Sun)	Pruning Workshop - Bring your own tools - Spring Brook Nature Center, Itasca
June event	TBD
July picnic	TBD

MidFEx Officers and Contacts (2008-2009) — Elections January 2010

President: Phil Hahn Secretary: Chuck Heisinger	Vice-President: Position Open Treasurer: Jeff Postlewaite
Communications: Sherwin Dubren	Membership Chair: Jeff Postlewaite
Dear Members: You will have noticed a new format to the Grapevine. I am taking a well-deserved break and am now the gathering editor. Phil H. and Jeff P. are the current editors/publishers. You will still send your submissions to me, and I will forward them onto Jeff and Phil for them to work their magic and put together and send out the Grapevines. See the Grapevine Note inside. Happy New Year Everyone! <i>Robin Guy</i>	MidFEx Web Site: http://www.midfex.org Send anything of interest (links, photographs, fruit info, etc.) to Brad Platt for consideration for web site posting. Email Brad at: midfexweb@buildabettersite.com
Grapevine articles wanted! Deadline for articles to Robin Guy for next Grapevine: 2/12/10. Please e-mail articles to Robin's address above and type "GRAPEVINE" in the subject header. Gathering Editor: Robin Guy (rguy@ameritech.net)	Membership: Use enclosed application, see web site, email membership@midfex.org , or write: MidFEx Membership P.O. Box 93 Markham, IL 60428-0093

Grapevine

Midwest Fruit Explorers
P.O. Box 93, Markham, IL 60426-0093

First Class