
The Grapevine

SPRING 2010 ♦ JOURNAL OF THE MIDWEST FRUIT EXPLORERS ♦ VOL. 34 No 1

President's Message

According to our by laws, the officers for the current year are elected during the January meeting. Well, the January meeting was held as were the elections. I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce the MidFEx Officers for 2010. Chuck Heisinger graciously agreed to stay on as Secretary for one more year. Likewise Jeff Postlewaite will remain on as treasurer. Michael Zost whom many of you know has chaired Harvest Fest for the past few years accepted the position of Vice President, and the position of President was accepted by myself. Now many of you may be wondering "Who is this guy?", "What is his background?", and "What can he do for MidFEx?" Typically, a candidate runs a campaign to let everyone know what they are about, and although the election is over, I'd like to present my campaign platform.

My name is Dennis Wang, and I've been a MidFEx member since Harvest Fest 2008. I've been a gardener for over 30 years. My focus has been annual fruits and vegetables, but I've always wanted to grow fruit trees and other perennial fruits. I served as President of the Schaumburg Community Garden club in 2000, 2003-2004. I served my first Presidential term my second year as a member there, and history seems to be repeating itself. Through my past experience, I have an understanding of what it takes to "lead" a group like ours, and I have some goals that I'd like to accomplish while I'm in office.

As President I will work towards identifying new ways to reach out to the public with our message and passion about home grown fruit, increasing membership and membership involvement, retaining members, expanding members' knowledge and skill of fruit growing, and helping our club run more efficiently. I know that this list is not as detailed as it could be because it would be a huge list. I'm also not so naive to think that I will be able to bring about this much change in one year, but like a newly grafted tree that may take a few years before any fruit can be savored the wait is definitely worth it.

Now that introductions are over, check out PAGE 3 to see what's going on this year...Dennis Wang



2010 Kurle Lecture: "Pawpaw - Mystery Fruit in Our Midst"
Ken Drabik's followup on p. 7

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.....last minute.....

Oriana K. will represent MidFEx in the Chicago Botanic Garden booth at the *Chicago Flower Show* on Thursday, March 18, 3 PM till closing. **Navy Pier Expo Center**

Grafting Workshop Update

We will have the following rootstocks available at the workshops this year:

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.
	MARK	Develops into a tree about 30% of standard at maturity. Developed at Michigan State. Should be staked when young and on exposed sites.
	BUD 9	Develops into a tree about 30% - 35% of standard at maturity. Developed in Russia. Very hardy. Requires staking.
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's preferred root for Asian pear.
	Quince C	Perhaps the most dwarfing at about 30%. Good for espalier. All Asian and some European pears require an interstem. Details will be available at the workshops.
Plum	Krymsk 1	About 50% dwarfing. Reported compatible with plums, apricots, peaches, and nectarines.

Note: The workshop order form in the December Grapevine listed M26 apple. We will *not* have M26 apple this year. There should be ample MARK apple rootstock as a substitute.

Workshop attendees are reminded to bring a sharp thin bladed knife with a maximum 2-3 inch blade for grafting. Very sharp pocket knives and utility knives with replaceable blades have successfully been used for grafting. We will have grafting knives for sale to those that don't have a knife or find that theirs is not up to the task.

The MidFEx *Grapevine*

Its 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...

! CUT SCION WOOD NOW !

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 about the thickness of a pencil or slightly less. Water spouts 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. Too little moisture and the scion wood dries out. Too much moisture and the scion wood molds.
- 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.

If possible, bring your scion to the morning session at Cantigny or give it to someone that will be there.

Workshop Volunteers

Member assistance is needed at the grafting workshops for the following primary tasks:

- **Scionwood Labeling:** The Scionwood brought in by members needs to be sorted and labeled. (Cantigny & CBG)
- **Rootstock Bagging:** The rootstock is shipped from vendors in bulk. We individually wrap the rootstocks on the mornings of the workshops. A perk for volunteers is early selection of their pre-ordered rootstock. (Cantigny)
- **Workshop Staffing:** We need members at the workshops to distribute rootstock, scion wood, and grafting supplies. We also need members with grafting experience to review grafts of novice grafters. (Cantigny & CBG)

If you can assist with any of the above tasks call Jeff Postlewaite (708 596-7139 or Jeff@FrugalFarm.com) to let him know how and when you can help.

President's Message (cont. from p.1)

Grafting Workshops

Our annual grafting workshops are a little early this year, so make sure to mark your calendars. The first workshop is at Cantigny Gardens on Sunday March 14th from 9am - 4pm. The second workshop is at the Chicago Botanic Garden on Sunday March 21st from 9am - 4pm. For more details on the workshop and donating scion wood, see the articles inside.

April Meeting

Before the April 18th pruning workshop, we'll have our Spring quarterly meeting at Spring Book Nature Center starting at 1pm. We'll go over old business, new business, and discuss upcoming events. I will have an agenda, and I like to keep business meetings as concise as possible so we can get on with the pruning workshop and socializing. The workshop is BYOT (bring your own tools) so bring a pair of pruning shears at a minimum.

Garden Tours

Strolling through an orchard admiring ripening fruit while someone explains about the different trees is hard to imagine given our current winter and the blanket of snow on the ground, but now is the time to start planning for these tours. We need 4-5 members who are willing to open their homes and gardens/orchards to our members. The sooner we get volunteers the sooner we can schedule the open houses. Ideally we'd like to have some new gardens and some repeats. It's true that some of our senior members have opened their gardens/orchards more than a few times, but we always have new members that have not seen any of our gardens. If you are willing to host this year, please let me know.

June Meeting

We're lining up a speaker for the June meeting., location and details to follow.

July Picnic

Ron Malcom is chairing the July Picnic. We're checking out some new locations now. If you're interested in help out with this annual event, please contact Ron (847-381-8543). More details to follow.

Fruit Growing Skills

We want to know what lectures, topics or skills that you are interested in learning about. We are looking into structuring lectures and talks into basic and advanced skills so that appeal to our beginning fruit growers and our experienced members. If you have topics that you would be interested in seeing more of, please forward them on to our Vice-President, Michael Zost.

Potential New Meeting Locations

We have members spread out across the greater Chicago land area and in Wisconsin and Indiana. If you have not been able to make it to MidFEx meeting because the location is too far for you, we are looking for alternative meeting locations. If you know of a potential place for us to hold one of our quarterly meetings, lectures, or events let me know about it. Some possible locations are your public library, park district rooms or community parks. Please gather as much of the following information as you can about any prospective locations and then contact Dennis Wang (773-350-4952 or qimassage@comcast.net): Location Name, Address, Size of Space, Contact Name, Contact #, Contact Email, Web Site, Hours of Operation, Room Restrictions (no food for example), Room Fee, and Parking Fee.

MidFEx Is Now On Facebook

If you provided an email address with your membership information, you probably received an invite to join the MidFEx group on Facebook. There is no obligation or requirement to join. We're just using it as a place to post our events on-line and to reach new people.

Dennis Wang, President

NAFEX?

MidFEx members should consider joining NAFEX (North American Fruit Explorers) if they haven't already. Many of our members belong to both organizations. Some of our members undoubtedly found us through NAFEX. MidFEx and NAFEX share common goals - to share information about growing fruit and to encourage experimentation. NAFEX is a national organization that publishes the quarterly journal "Pomona" (a very good read) to share information with members. MidFEx is a regional organization that depends primarily on our meetings to exchange information.

MidFEx and NAFEX have a tangled history. Both have Bob Kurler as a founder. MidFEx was initially called NAFEX Midwest Chapter. Our name was changed to MidFEx in 1993 to resolve confusion amongst members of both organizations when paying dues.

The NAFEX annual meeting this year will be on Aug 18 & 19 in Lafayette, IN. We'll publish further details in the next Grapevine.

NAFEX dues are \$19 per year. Their address is: 1716 Apples Rd., Chapin, IL 62628
The NAFEX web address is www.nafex.org

Dormant Pruning in Vineyards

Bill Shoemaker

(from the Illinois Fruit and Vegetable News (Volume 15, number 18); printed with permission)

As winter begins to transition to spring, grape growers must get their vineyards ready for production. Obviously, dormant pruning is a key task. Let's go over the reasons dormant pruning is necessary and how to get it done.

During the growing season, grapevines produce buds at every node on actively growing shoots. For mature vines, most of those buds will have flowers that will open and produce next year's crop. When those shoots begin to shift into dormancy in the fall, they become canes. The buds also sink into full dormancy as the cold temperatures of winter move in. The following spring, as temperatures warm, and if winter did not damage them, those buds begin to swell and break open, allowing a shoot to begin growing. That is how grapevines survive winter and fulfill their perennial destiny. But without pruning, they will just become wild vines as every bud grows into a shoot and a tangled mess.

Pruning is a practice which gives the grape grower an opportunity to manage how the vine will grow during the next growing season. It is essentially making the decision of which of last year's buds will get to grow into this year's crop, and therefore which ones must be removed (pruned). This is due to the fact that growers need only a small percentage of the viable buds to produce an optimum crop. So at the basis for decision making for prun-

ing dormant grapes is the knowledge that a certain number of buds must remain when pruning is finished on each plant. All the other buds will be removed.

But there is another key consideration. Grapevines have an amazing capacity for growth. The grower must manage that growth into an efficient form for production. So trellis and training systems are chosen which favor both the grower and the vine. But the grower must successfully manage the vine in that system. Pruning is the pre-season effort to prepare the

Pruning is a practice which gives the grape grower an opportunity to manage how the vine will grow during the next growing season.

plant to grow and produce in that system. It properly sets the stage for the coming growth cycle, making it easier for the grower to manage the crop.

The trellis and training system is designed to arrange the parts of the plant to ensure it grows well and produces a fine crop. Cordons (arms) are permanent structures that support the renewing wood of the plant. In spur training systems, spurs are semi-permanent wood which is used to produce the next year's foliage and crop. These are created by cutting back canes and leaving 2-3 buds to grow. A series of spurs are left on each cordon to arrange the growth in a manageable system. The shoots which form that growth come from the buds on

those spurs.

In cane training systems, there are no cordons. The only permanent wood is the trunk. There are spurs at the top of the trunk which produce the shoots which become next year's canes. All but one of those canes is removed and the remaining cane is cut to length and tied to the trellis wire. The buds which occur at each node will produce shoots and later, fruit. A spur is left from one of the canes that was cut off. That spur will produce new canes for next season's production. Cane systems usually leave fewer buds and give the grower a means for managing excessively vigorous varieties.

Dormant pruning must be finished before the beginning of the growing season. While cuts can be made after budbreak without harming the vine, the new emerging shoots are weak and can easily be knocked off. So pruning after budbreak can result in many damaged shoots, defeating the purpose of proper pruning.

There is much more to learn about pruning and how it fits into trellis and training systems. An excellent resource for learning more about pruning and grape growing in general is the Midwest Grape Production Guide from Ohio State University. Many Extension offices can help find the publication, and it can be downloaded from the internet at no charge from:

<http://ohioline.osu.edu/b919/>

(Scroll to the bottom for a link to the pdf version of the publication.)

My MAGA EXPERIENCE 2010

Chris Andersen

This year at the *Minnesota Apple Growers Association* (MAGA) winter meeting, there were no new varieties unveiled and there seemed to be less IPM minutia presented. There was, however, a very fascinating researcher from Cornell, Dr. Terrence Robinson, who gave two presentations that were completely new material for me. The first had little practical value for most of our members so I will be brief and go on. It was a nicely laid out long term study on maximizing the commercial dollar return at different planting densities and pruning methods. His results were consistent and pretty amazing to me. If anyone has interest in that discussion please ask me. I'd be happy to share the information.

His second presentation was an equally elegant study of maximizing crop load. He began by describing all the factors they used in assessing quality in the analysis and the mechanisms the trees use to produce the apple such as carbohydrate transfer in the tree. Generally they found that overloaded trees produce apples that are smaller, taste poorer, have less overall carbohydrates, produce less coloration, have lower acids and sugars and have less firmness than trees that are not overloaded. The scientific details are much less important to our members than the result which under nearly all quality measurements maxed out at 8 fruit per square centimeter of trunk cross sectional area. By thinning to appropriate crop load, each tree can be calculated individually and trees of various ages and sizes can all be optimized so as to produce the largest, most flavorful and longest storing product.

The calculations go like this:

If you have a tree that has a 3 inch trunk diameter, First convert to centimeters.

1 cm = 2.54 inches so a 3 inch trunk x 2.54 = 7.62cm diameter.

The equation for cross sectional area is $Area = \pi r^2$ with "r" being the radius of the trunk so first calculate the radius by dividing the diameter by two. $7.62 / 2 = 3.81$.

Plug the trunk radius into the area equation to get the cross sectional trunk area as

$Area = \pi \times (3.81)^2$. To calculate the square, multiply the radius by itself, i.e. 3.81×3.81 which for this example equals 14.51. Since $\pi = 3.14159$, the last step becomes:

$3.14159 \times 14.51 = 45.6$ square centimeters total cross sectional area (TCA).

Multiply your calculated TCA by 8 to get about 365 apples for his ideal crop load on a tree with a three inch trunk.

When I think about this, the resulting numbers seem too high to me but I have never actually counted apples on a tree after they were more than a few years old. These tests were also conducted under best general practice nutritional and fieldcare conditions, which may increase the ideal load. Have you ever counted apples on a tree? I'd be interested in a forum conversation about this.

BOOKssssssssss

"The Reference Manual of Woody Plant Propagation"

With grand plans of setting up a tissue culture facility in my basement, I checked out "*The Reference Manual of Woody Plant Propagation*" by Michael A. Dirr and Charles W. Heuser, Jr., 2006. This book covers sowing seeds, cuttings and tissue culture, first in a broad sense and then specific to many woody plant genera. In fact two thirds of the book is an encyclopedia of trees and shrubs and references to publications for the various types of propagation. The chapter on cuttings is especially interesting with examples of experiments on different types and concentrations of auxins, bottom heat, misting and fogg.

Unless you plan to try your hand at propagating many types of plants I recommend borrowing this book from your local library (I had to special order mine) because the plant you may be interested in propagating may only be a paragraph or two long. As for my setting up tissue culture, well, lets just say that my disposable cash won't buy an autoclave, filter hood, or bulk nutrient media, at least not until I invent the honeycrisp apple. That's been done, oh.

Craig Evancoe

Pruning Workshop at Spring Brook Nature Center Itasca, Illinois April 18, 1 PM Rain or Shine Meet at visitors center

This 100 tree nature center orchard was planted 20+ years ago with ten varieties of apples. Since it receives no regular or formal care we have been more than welcome to apply our collective voluntary talents to pruning these vigorous adolescents into shape. Join us for an afternoon of radical rescue pruning. Apple trees are tough. They will thank us.

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>

MidFEx Annual Business Meeting Minutes

Spring Brook Nature Center, Itasca, IL

January 10, 2010

Chuck Heisinger, Secretary

The annual business meeting was called to order by President Phil Hahn at 2:13 p.m. The president estimated that 25 people were in attendance.

The president announced the agenda, consisting of annual elections, regular business, and a pruning demonstration to follow the meeting.

Minutes from the 2009 annual business meeting were presented. (These minutes appeared in the Spring Edition of The Grapevine.) Al Cosnow motioned for approval, Michael Zost seconded. Said minutes were approved as recorded.

Treasurer's report:

2009 Summary

Revenue: \$9459

Expense 8642

Income 817

End of Year Balance: \$14061

Jeff Postlewaite, our treasurer, explained that we are in a generally favorable inventory situation (our accounting books are maintained on cash basis.) He said that educational books are priced \$.50 markup from cost for members, which represent a great savings. Jeff also said that orders are now being taken for rootstock.

Committee reports:

Sherwin Dubren discussed the "Forum" ibiblio list. Al asked how to get people on the Forum. Sherwin will send him an address. Bill Scheffler offered to help Sherwin on publicity work.

Chuck Heisinger said that reported Internet views for Gene's Backyard tour were 2,417. Views for Al's T-bud and Chip bud tutorial were 6,071.

Old Business:

Officer Elections:

Phil explained officer positions and responsibilities. He referenced the by-law descriptions.

Note: In addition to three officer positions, The Grapevine editor position is also open. Robin will continue, however, to serve as a collector of information.

Oriana Kruszewski led a discussion of the responsibilities. Gene Yale talked about the amount of support that the president receives from other members.

Nominations were opened for officer positions. Chuck agreed to continue for one year as secretary.

Dennis Wang was nominated for President by Mike Zost and multiple members seconded. Dennis Wang accepted nomination as President. Chair declared hand vote in favor.

Chuck Heisinger nominated Michael Zost for Vice President and Al Cosnow seconded. Michael accepted. Chair declared hand vote in favor.

Ron Malcolm nominated Chuck Heisinger as Secretary. Gene Yale seconded. Chuck accepted on a one-year basis. Chair declared hand vote in favor.

Oriana then discussed membership levels. She introduced the idea of a lifetime membership. She said that another organization, similar to ours, asks members to pay \$100 one time. She suggested that we create this membership tier. Topic tabled for further discussion.

Nursery Trees:

Al Cosnow reported that six mother trees exist at Rod Beary's to pro-

duce additional practice scion wood at grafting workshops. The four apple and two pear trees are now two years old. These trees will give us an extra supply of scion wood should our other sources exhaust themselves. Phil DelMastro agreed to harvest the trees in advance of the grafting workshops. Ron Malcolm reported that he has stoney-pit virus in his pear scionwood. He is questioning if he should bring to workshop. He said that is propagated by grafting (also possibly pruning). Al suggested not bringing it in 2010.

Upcoming Grafting Workshops:

Discussion ensued about venues for grafting workshops. Free parking was seen as an issue. Oriana suggested holding a workshop downtown. According to one member downtown people appear not to stay with organization. A discussion evolved about a new urban tree growers group. Al said that Cantigny location is essential and that the rest of schedule keys on this date. North Park Village was mentioned by Ruth as a possible venue. It is located at Pulaski between Peterson and Bryn Mawr. The Peggy Notebart Nature Museum was identified by Oriana. Parking is included and the price is \$300. Oriana also mentioned the Michael Fields Agricultural Institute (MFAI) in East Troy (Pridewood) WI. Brad mentioned a facility in Schaumburg--the Spring Valley facility. Brad offered to compile information. Phil asked the information be sent to Dennis or mentioned on forum. Al said that Botanic Garden precludes charging people for workshop.

Phil discussed food at Cantigny. He wants volunteer for March 14 to the bring food. Annie Walters agreed to do this.

Phil talked about meeting venue fees and what constituted a fair price. He said the \$200 is a good budget parameter. Al mentioned Glencoe field house. Ron mentioned the Forest Preserve.

Bees:

We will consider donations from members prior to making orders for additional live bees for the workshops.

Left-over rootstock disposition:

Whitney Young (Oriana), College of Lake County (Mike Modde), Washington School (Chuck), are candidates for surplus rootstock. Jeff is collecting information on likely recipients.

June Meeting:

Phil Hahn mentioned the choice of yard tours vs. holding a June meeting. Sherwin thought that June meeting could be interesting if we can find good speaker. Also, a field trip was mentioned, possibly to St Charles or Oriana's place.

Picnic:

Ron Malcolm volunteered, once again, to haul supplies. Al offered his place. The venue of a commercial orchard was mentioned, but some members objected. Garfield Farm and Inn Museum was mentioned as a possible summer venue. They are reconstructing an 1845 farm with standard size trees. Tree-mendous Fruit Farm in Eau Claire, Michigan was also mentioned.

New Business:

Brad proposed spending \$75 for Google "ad words" to advertise Fall Harvest Festival. This effort would be focused on advertising for the event.

Brad said the dollar amount spent per day can be limited. He also said that the "ad words" could be targeted to Google users located within certain geographic boundaries. Jeff P. asked time for officers to consider.

Ron suggested that we do more to promote figs, paw paws, and persimmons as alternative fruits for members and workshop attendees.

A motion to adjourn was approved at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chuck Heisinger, Secretary

Pawpaws Revisited

Ken Drabik forwarded this information about Pawpaw varieties and tree sources that he mentioned in his Feb 7th lecture:

Most Popular Pawpaws:

Non trademarked Varieties:

NC-1, SUNFLOWER, OVERLEESE, PA-GOLDEN

Peterson Varieties:

SHENANDOAH, SUSQUEHANNA, WABASH, ALLEGHENY, POTOMAC

Purchase Peterson Pawpaw Trees from:

Nolin River Nut Tree Nursery

www.nolinnursery.com

797 Port Wooden Road

Upton, Kentucky 42784

OWNERS: John & Lisa Brittain

NURSERY ASSIST: Violet Brittain

Phone (270) 369-8551

Mon.-Sat. 7-7 C.T.

john.brittain@windstream.net

Forrest Keeling Nursery

fknursery.com

Forrest Keeling Nursery

88 Forrest Keeling Lane

P.O. Box 135

Elsberry, MO 63343

(800)356-2401

info@fknursery.com

Pawpaw information online:

www.petersonpawpaws.com

www.ohiopawpaw.com

www.pawpaw.kysu.edu

www.ohiopawpawfest.com

Many attendees were intrigued by Ken's after-lecture Cherimoya tasting spread. Ken thoughtfully forwarded this information about Cherimoyas:

Purchase Cherimoya Fruit from:

La Primavera Orchards

Nino Cupaiuolo

1596 Aldorado Dr.

Vista, Calif. 92084-1040

primaverafruit@sbcglobal.net

(760) 630-1773. \$4 per pound, plus shipping.

Excellent selection of varieties. Season

November - April

Calimoya Exotic Fruits,
Goleta, Calif.

www.calimoya.com

(805) 685-4189.

\$30 for a 4-pound box (3-5 cherimoyas), includes shipping.

Season February to May

Cherimoya information online:

Ken's link is too long to print. Google "the strange and divine cherimoya".

PURDUE EXTENSION

School for Backyard Fruit Growers
2010 Beginning Fruit Grower Series
Lake County, Indiana

Session 1—March 4

Program Overview & "It All Begins with You"

Session 2—March 11

Tree Fruit—Branching out!

Session 3—March 18

Small Fruit is BIG in the Landscape

Session 4—March 25

Making the most of the fruits
of your labors

Session 5— April 1

Protecting Your Crop - Pest Management

Session 6— April 15

A Pruning/training-Hands on Workshop
Will be held at County Line Orchard
Hobart, IN
from 9 am to 11 am

Contact:

Purdue Extension—Lake County

Nikky Witkowski, Crown Point, IN

Phone: 219-755-3240 E-mail: nikky@purdue.edu



Your membership may be expiring! Check your Grapevine address label for your membership expiration date. If it says "3/31/10" or earlier, then it is time to renew. Mail the form below.

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MidFEx Membership Application

New Member

Renewing Member

Name (please print)				
Address		City	State	Zip
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

March 14, 2010 (Sun)	Grafting workshop, Cantigny Gardens, Wheaton
March 21, 2010 (Sun)	Grafting Workshop, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe
May 12, 2010	Submissions due for spring 2010Grapevine
April 18, 2010 (Sun)	Pruning Workshop - Bring own tools - Spring Brook Nature Center, Itasca
June Meeting	TBD
July picnic	TBD
Summer Yard Tours	TBD
October 16 & 17, 2010	Harvest Festival, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe

MidFEx Officers and Contacts

President: Dennis Wang Secretary: Chuck Heisinger	Vice-President: Michael Zost Treasurer: Jeff Postlewaite
Communications: Sherwin Dubren	Membership Chair: Jeff Postlewaite
MidFEx Online Forum Members are invited to join the MidFEx forum. Get advice and share your fruit growing experiences with other members. Subscribe to the forum at: http://lists.ibiblio.org/mailman/listinfo/midfex Forum administrator: Sherwin Dubren (sherwindu@comcast.net)	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@buildabetersite.com
Grapevine articles wanted! Deadline for articles to Robin Guy for next Grapevine: 5/12/10. Please e-mail articles to Robin 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
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First Class