Expanding South Whidbey Tilth’s Power System

During the last two weeks of November the electrical line from the pump house to the restrooms and pavilion was installed. The restrooms will be heated and have lights once the custodial room is insulated. The water has been retested and the results came back “satisfactory.” Holes in the restroom roof temporarily stalled progress. A roofer was contracted and now volunteers are needed to install insulation in the middle section, the custodial room. Once the insulation is in, the ceiling covered and the room painted, a mop sink will be reinstalled. We want to have this completed by January 14, when the Calyx Community Arts School winter term begins.

The extended electrical line will expand South Whidbey Tilth’s ability to hold more workshops and activities on its campus all year, enable Calyx to offer improved programs to their students and teachers, provide the Youngs’ high tunnel hoop house with modest power and make music and programs more audible during the Farmers’ Market season.

Perry McClellan, former land steward, volunteered his construction and project management skills to coordinate the work with both volunteers and trades workers. Land steward Anza Muenchow coordinated Tilth and Calyx volunteers. The trench digger was Brian Marshall.

Overview of the Genetic Commons

We are delighted to present a program about genetic plant resources by Laura R. Lewis, PH.D. She will speak and illustrate An Overview of the Genetic Commons, with an historical look at plant genetic resources. The term, commons, refers to a situation of collective interest, such as open-pollinated seeds, land held in common, etc.

This overview focuses on germ plasm development, screening, and selection for organic production systems during an era of climate change, habitat destruction, loss of agricultural land, and governance of intellectual property. Lewis will also discuss how to strengthen our plant genetic commons and guarantee public access, when current use of plant genetic resources has been dominated by large corporations and parallel agricultural development agendas.

This presentation was also made November 9, 2012, at the joint Washington State University (WSU) and Tilth Producers of Washington Symposium, Seeding the Future: Ensuring Resiliency in Our Plant Genetic Resources in Port Townsend.

A suggested donation of $5 by non-members is welcome, but not mandatory.
Farewell to Bobby

Bobby Crosby at one of the fine picnic tables he built for Tilth.

Bobby Crosby died November 27, 2012, from complications of a serious fall that occurred last spring.

Bobby built South Whidbey Tilth’s sturdy picnic tables from wood harvested from the campus. He readily joined Tilth’s work parties, generously participating in projects to paint, repair, cultivate and plant the campus.

All of us at Tilth who knew Bobby, express our condolences to Donita Crosby, his former wife, who is also a long-time friend of Tilth. He is also survived by his son, Lenny Crosby, and a granddaughter, Brittany Crosby. A celebration of Bobby’s life was held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island’s meeting house on December 26, which would have been his 61st birthday.

Tool Care

Be sure your tools are clean and stored in a dry place for winter. Rusty? Scrub them with steel wool or 80 grit sandpaper and vinegar. Rub with oil for protection from moisture. Stick them in a bucket of sand with oil in it for excellent storage (motor oil, baby oil or household oil).
Tilth Film Night Features *Symphony of the Soil*

Tilth members and their guests are invited to Tilth Film Night, Tuesday, January 8 at the home of our local filmmakers, Mark Dworkin and Melissa Young. The event is free. Bring a potluck dish to share at 6 p.m. or come just for the film at 7 p.m. Mark and Melissa live off Log Cabin Road on Beaver Creek Lane in Clinton. Please R.S.V.P. and get directions by contacting them at 360-341-1269 or select to email Melissa.

Farmers’ Market Season Planning

The 42nd farmers’ market season for South Whidbey Tilth begins Sunday, April 28 and continues every Sunday through October. Market committee chairperson Annapoorne Colangelo called the first planning meeting December 6. The next meeting is 5 p.m. on Wednesday, January 9 at Lynae Slinden’s home in Clinton. The 2013 market policy will be developed.

A vendor orientation meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, February 10 at Trinity Lutheran Church’s community building on the highway in Freeland. Email Annapoorne for updates and to offer suggestions.

Market Conference

Washington State Farmers Market Association’s (WSFMA) annual conference is Friday through Sunday, January 25 to 27 in Vancouver, Washington. Over 200 farmers’ market managers, staff, board members, farmers, volunteers and other professionals from across the state are expected to attend. It will be held at the Heathman Lodge. The keynote speaker is Sharon Yeago, former president of the Farmers Market Coalition, a national organization.

Our market manager Lynae Slinden plans to attend this year. To register visit the WSFMA website. For more information about the conference, call Lori Musgrave at 509-979-1051. For hotel reservations, go to Heathman Lodge website or call 1-888-475-3100.

Making Friendship Soup at Calyx

by Lisa Kois, Calyx Cofounder

We asked the kids to reflect on highlights from the fall quarter for this newsletter, and this is what they had to share.

“At Calyx we made friends and we made friendship soup! We learned music…ate snacks…. held chickens, and collected eggs…. And celebrated Día de los Muertos! We had fun in the box house, and we made a straw bale house. We drew and painted sunflowers from the garden. We collected honey from our beehive. We caught a vole, and we caught lots of potato bugs. We built a greenhouse. We wrote a story called “The Five Birds.” At the Legacy Forest, we went to the labyrinth, and got gifts from the forest.”

At Calyx this fall, we have been working on community formation, friendship and social learning, as we go about our daily business and busy-ness. And we have been busy this year! Learning how to care for ourselves, each other, and the earth and all its creatures is a big part of what we do at Calyx.

It’s been a great beginning to a new academic year, with lead teacher Sarah Gillett working with a team of adult mentors, including Eva Bisteur Gibson (Spanish), Anza Muenchow (gardening), Linda Good (music/Japanese), Lauren Atkinson (art) and Dawn Collins (puppetry).

Calyx began the fall with eight students and will begin winter quarter with 10 students. Because of space constraints, we have capped enrollment at 10 for the spring quarter. We are faced with a space dilemma and welcome your ideas about solving this dilemma. In the meantime, we will continue to do what we do — learn and grow together, with nature and through the seasons.

Calyx Community Arts School is a multilingual arts and nature-based learning experience for children ages 5 to 9. Calyx offers a three-day program week, Monday through Wednesday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and meets at the South Whidbey Tilth Campus and Legacy Forest (Chinook). South Whidby Tilth is its fiscal sponsor. For more information about our program, contact Lisa Kois or Marta Mulholland by email or call Lisa Kois at 917-859-4522.
Annual Meeting, from page 1

term. There are four openings this year, three two-year positions and a one-year term, due to a resignation. Nominations to the council are Edward Hueneke, Jo Stevens and Marta Mulholland. Nominations are open. Please contact Gary Ingram or Linda Good if you have a nominee to recommend or if you wish to be considered. See contact information on page 2.

Except for the president, officer duties are filled each year. Edward hopes to serve as finance chair again. Jo is willing to coordinate the land stewardship committee. Marta is interested in chairing education. The office of secretary is still open. President Linda Good, membership committee chair Gary Ingram and market committee chair Annapoorne Colangelo remain on the council for the last year of their terms.

Electrical Extension, from page 1

The licensed electricians were Lance Moore and his daughter, Golda. The roofer was Joe Berendt.

This enhancement is partially paid for through a Port of South Whidbey grant and donations from Tilth supporters. A big thank-you goes to Anza for writing the Port of South Whidbey proposal. Thank you to Jerry Stonebridge who donated $495 worth of equipment used to dig the 390-foot trench and have it covered again.

The pavilion has always had 12-volt lighting and refrigeration from a battery bank charged by a solar panel. The 12-volt system will eventually be expanded to include more solar panels and a grid intertie to the 120-volt standard electrical system.

The trench work followed the salmonberry-filbert tree-lined boulevard connecting the Tilth campus features from the Community Garden to the Farmers’ Market to the forest. We’ll be looking for helpers to tidy up and install mulch and wood chips along that route for an enhanced path that won’t need mowing.

We welcome helpers who can do landscaping or insulation and painting. We also welcome financial contributions.

Genetic Commons, from page 1

Lewis is an agricultural geographer with an emphasis on biodiversity and environmental systems. She is currently the director of the WSU Jefferson County Extension service based in Port Hadlock. Her expertise is in genetic resource conservation and utilization of agrobiodiversity in traditional and small-scale farming systems.

She earned her bachelor’s degree in agriculture at WSU in 1996 with a focus on crop, soil and horticultural science in world agricultural systems and sustainability. She also holds a doctorate in agricultural geography from the University of California, Davis.

Prior to coming to Jefferson County in 2011, Lewis served for five years as an assistant professor of biogeography at the University of Maryland in the Geography and Environmental Systems Department. Her research program includes applied ethno-ecology and agrobiodiversity in urban landscapes, with specific focus on food deserts, as well as agrobiodiversity in traditional African agricultural systems, and the conservation and restoration of economically important species. She has collected and studied seeds in Niger and Syria.

She also helps manage the WSU Farm Innovation Education and Leadership Development (FIELD) program in collaboration with the FIELD program board of directors, a group of farmers who spearheaded the establishment of the farmer internship program in Jefferson County.

It’s Seed Ordering Time

There are several local and regional seed companies that offer unique seed, usually raised by organic methods. Right here on Whidbey Island, Tilth member Eric Conn of Full Cycle Farm is growing an ever-expanding variety of seeds. Check out his offerings on the Full Cycle Farm website.


The Osborne Seed Company in Mount Vernon has been in business for over 30 years. It now has both conventionally grown and organic seed available. Visit the Osborne Seeds website or call the company at 800-845-9113 or by email.

Here in the Puget Sound basin, we can grow so many incredible vegetables, shrubs and trees. But to get the best production out of our crops, we need to use the local seed and tree suppliers to find the best “cultivars” for our growing conditions. By cultivars I mean the specific genetic material in the species of plants we want to grow. — Anza Muenchow, South Whidbey Tilth Newsletter, January 2008.

Note: Anza Muenchow is stepping away from the column she’s contributed in this newsletter since 2006. We invite a new volunteer to share advice about organic growing. Please contact Prescott, newsletter editor.
Vermicomposting the Easy Way

*Dump, Cover, You’re Done*

by Todd Spratt, vermitech specialist, www.bugabay.com

For the past 36-plus years my family and I have considered our kitchen and table scraps not as waste but as a valuable resource. Just about any green material that comes out of our garden and yard is viewed as equally important. Why do we have such high regard for what many people think of as garbage? We took the word “waste” out of the equation.

We learned that with the help of the soil food-web organisms and our BugaBay in-ground cedar vermicomposting system, we can convert our food scraps in a short period of time to the best soil amendment available — worm castings are black gold! When you begin to discover what is actually hidden deep within those food scraps just waiting to be released, you understand their true potential and value.

In a short period of time food scraps convert to the best soil amendment available — worm castings.

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Working with Seed: Creating Strong Farms

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earn how to assess, grow and improve crop seeds, 1 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, January 16 and 17 at the Greenbank Farm, 765 Wonn Road in Greenbank. These free workshops are a collaborative effort of Greenbank Farm’s Agriculture Training Center and the Organic Seed Alliance (OSA).

**Wednesday, January 16: Assessing the Best Varieties for Your Farm and Garden.** Learn how to conduct your own variety trials and learn about how you can benefit from, and participate in, Greenbank Farm’s Organic Seed Project and the Northern Organic Vegetable Improvement Collaborative (NOVIC).

1 p.m. — **Introduction to Greenbank Farm’s Organic Seed Project.** Learn how this project can serve you and how you can get involved.

2 p.m. — **Conducting Variety Trials Workshop,** presented by OSA; this workshop will teach you how to use variety trials as a tool for enhancing your farm’s success.

3:30 p.m. — **OSA’s NOVIC 2012 variety trial report.** The 2012 NOVIC trials evaluated carrots, beets, peas, broccoli, winter squash and chicories. Learn which varieties did best this year. [South Whidbey Tilth did sweet corn seed variety trials in 2012; see the November-December 2012 issue of the *South Whidbey Tilth Newsletter.*]

4 p.m. — **Farmer input on 2013 NOVIC trials.** Offer input into the 2013 NOVIC trials and sign up to be a participating trial grower.

4:30 p.m. — Greenbank Farm’s 2012 variety trial report. The Greenbank Farm trialed carrots, open-pollinated beets, cabbage and kales this year; come learn results.

**Thursday, January 17: Crop Improvement Workshop and Seed Grower Meeting.** Learn the fundamentals of improving crop varieties on your farm and then coordinate your 2013 seed growing efforts with other growers while exploring collaborative marketing.

1 p.m. — **Fundamentals of Crop Improvement Workshop,** presented by OSA. Learn the fundamental skills to develop and adapt seed varieties for your organic farm conditions.

3 p.m. — **Seed growers meeting;** coordinate your 2013 seed efforts (production and marketing).

4 p.m. — **Seed swap and social**

To learn more, email by clicking here, Sebastian Aguilar, or call him at 360-222-3171 or visit the following websites:

- [Greenbank Farm’s Organic Seed Project website](#)
- [Organic Seed Alliance](#)
- [NOVIC](#)

Funding for these free workshops is by the Washington State Department of Agriculture Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, the Sustainable Path Foundation and the Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative.

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Tending Tilth’s Worm Bin

by Linda Good

After the generous gift of a commercial-size BugaBay in-ground cedar vermicomposting worm bin from the Spratt family, we’ve now filled one side of the bin and are starting on the other. At present we have a plastic container with alpaca manure, but the Spratt family has also offered us some horse manure. I’ve been layering leaves during the month when Calyx is not in session. Any parents who are helping tend the chickens are welcome to bring food waste for the worm bins. This is a group effort and we can all learn together.

Recently I was concerned about standing water in the bin. Todd and Teresa Spratt and their son JaNoah opted to move the worm bin to slightly higher ground, and it sits just west of the pavilion near the salmon-stream garden in the market area.

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Easy Vermicomposting, see page 6
When we look at our compost pail full of apple cores, coffee grounds/filters, water-melon rinds, tea bags, potato peels, orange peels, lettuce scraps, vegetable trimmings, etc., we see a fresh garden salad, a bowl of tomatoes, cucumbers or peppers. We see bouquets of fresh-cut flowers throughout the house, bowls of fruit and berries. We see all the wonderful produce that will come out of those table scraps. Why on earth would we throw that away? That’s like throwing out all the nutrition, health, and enjoyment we can create from those table scraps. It’s like throwing money away!

The BugaBay system

The BugaBay Vermicomposting System was developed and tested by me, a vermitech specialist, with over 36 years of research and experience with vermiculture, composting and organic gardening techniques. I have tried many different composting systems over the years and love this relatively new system. It’s not only efficient, it’s effective and easy to use.

There is so much outdated information floating around out there that makes worm composting seem complicated and difficult. Well forget the old ways, they are complicated, confusing and a lot of the information isn’t relevant, in my opinion. Vermicomposting with a BugaBay worm box is as easy as Dump, cover, you’re done. No sorting, no chopping, no turning, no hassle; it works.

What is vermicomposting?

Vermicomposting is a cold composting process below 90 degrees called “mesophilic composting” using red worms (Eisenia fetida) in great numbers to facilitate the break down and stabilization of organic materials, converting it to the best natural soil amendment available: worm castings or vermicompost.

A bit about worm castings, if you’re not already familiar with the richest, living, organic soil amendment known to humankind and, more importantly, to plants.

Castings (worm poop) are dense but have a fine crumbly soft texture that feels good to the touch. They have a rich dark color and a wonderful earthy smell.

Castings resist leaching but still have the ability to retain moisture and they resist packing. Earthworm castings are alive with beneficial organisms like friendly bacteria, fungi, protozoa and nematodes. They contain nutrients like nitrogen, potassium, phosphorus, calcium, magnesium, trace elements, minerals, hormones and growth regulators.

All this is excreted by the earthworm in a concentrated, time-release, plant-ready form, and casting will not burn even the most delicate of plants.

Earthworms — invertebrates with backbone

Earthworms play a key role in the development of soil; they are a cornerstone species of the soil food web. I refer to them as the honeybees of the soil, pollinating the soil with beneficial microorganisms. They act like a mass transit system for other soil organisms aiding in the colonization of beneficial microorganisms throughout the soil.

Red worms (Eisenia fetida), the best composters

Red worms consume large amounts of organic debris, up to one-and-a-half times their body weight per day. They then grind and mix it in their gizzards with little particles of stone. Pulverizing this material creates more surface area on which beneficial soil microbes will feed and thrive. The gut of the earthworm also acts as an incubator for microbes, some of which are digested and some excreted, undigested.

The earthworm adds hormones, enzymes, growth regulators and other body fluids from inside and outside its body that are highly beneficial to a plant’s health. All of this is held together by the sticky substances that microbes excrete along with body fluids of the earthworm. It is excreted as a well aggregated time-release pellet full of microorganisms,
Why is vermicomposting important?
When food waste is dumped in the trash it is the beginning of a long greenhouse gas-producing process that has a huge negative impact on our planet.

First, this so-called waste (in most cases) is hauled to a transfer station and then transported to a landfill which can be in another state. This all takes massive amounts of fuel which equals carbon dioxide ($\text{CO}_2$) and other pollutants released into our atmosphere.

Material in a landfill is buried deep below the surface and decomposes anaerobically (without oxygen). Anaerobic decomposition generates methane gas. Methane is 25 times more efficient at trapping heat in our atmosphere than $\text{CO}_2$.

Flushing food waste down the garbage disposal requires large quantities of water to wash it away to the sewage treatment plant. There the water and food waste must be processed and treated with chemicals. The so-called treated water is then discharged into our waterways some of which is used again for drinking water. The solids from the sewage must then be transported to a landfill and you know what happens to it there. [Langley composts biosolids to be sprayed as fertilizer.]

If you have a septic system your tank will need to be pumped more often if you’re disposing food waste through your garbage disposal. The material that’s pumped out of your tank goes to the sewage treatment plant. None of these option are sustainable, practical or healthy for the planet or, ultimately, for us.

Recycling your food waste at a central conventional composting facility is far better than any of the disposal options listed directly above, but you still have to collect and haul the organic material to the facility, where it must be converted and stabilized using machinery and heavy electric and gas-powered equipment. The finished compost must then be hauled back to the point of use. This disposal option also releases large amounts of $\text{CO}_2$ and other pollutants into our atmosphere.

Let’s recap
When you vermicompost or compost at home you eliminate the methane produced at a landfill, the carbon dioxide and pollution produced by transporting waste to a landfill or composting facility, you eliminate the waste water that must be chemically treated and the carbon, pollutants and packaging generated to haul soil amendments from wherever they were produced to your home or other point of use.

Once you start using an in-ground cedar vermicomposting system you will no longer consider your food scraps as waste but as a resource. The loop can be closed at home because you will convert all your green material resources to worm castings, among the richest, living organic soil amendments available. Then you will take your castings and use them to grow food, flowers, trees and landscapes. Anything you grow with your wonderful worm castings will capture carbon from the atmosphere. It’s sustainable, it works and it makes sense.
South Whidbey Tilth Council Minutes of November 8, 2012

by Anza Muenchow

Members present — Linda Good (president), Gary Ingram, Anza Muenchow, Edward Huenek, Prescott, John Lee, JC May, Jo Stevens, Lynn Geri, Joseph Vasquez, Marta Mulholland

Meeting called to order at 6:05 after a delicious potluck.

Minutes from October 11 meeting approved for permanent record.

Finance committee — No Treasurer report this month as Edward needs more time to study Jeanne's bookkeeping report. He noted that we are operating at a deficit for the year thus far. At the December meeting Edward will analyze our current budget problems and propose a budget for 2013. The board did approve restoring the pay for our bookkeeper to her former rate of $100/month, retroactive to the month of October.

December fundraiser is the Giving Tree at the Cash Store in Bayview. Tilth orphans for $10 will be delivered by Prescott and hopefully next year we can design a new ornament, perhaps with help from the Calyx art teacher and the kids.

Market committee — Lynae Slinden reported successful sales at the final market and, though our market income totals were down from last year, the cause could be the lack of charging booth [selling space] fees to vendors this year and not attracting sufficient vendors and customers. The council members all reported that Lynae performed well as manager this year and agreed to ask her to continue as market manager for 2013. Lynae had a positive response but needed to hear the details of the contract before agreeing. A market committee meeting will be scheduled by Annapoone and Lynae, hopefully in December, to begin planning for next season.

Education committee — The Calyx memorandum of agreement (MOA) for September 2012 through August 2013 was proposed. The key points of the MOA that needed discussion were the monthly lease of $50 and concerns if the Tilth campus electricity isn't installed as projected. The council again reinstated their support of the Calyx and South Whidbey Tilth partnership and appreciation for all the new members Calyx has brought to Tilth. Calyx agreed to supply monthly reports to the council and to continue efforts toward obtaining its own 501(c)3. The Calyx MOA proposal passed; two Tilth members in attendance abstained and one opposed.

Earth Day planning is November 12 at 3:30 p.m. Contact Prescott to be involved.

Membership committee — Much appreciation to Michael Seraphinoff and A.T. Birmingham-Young for drafting the annual letter. Work party for stuffing envelopes will be on Thursday, November 15 at Gary's office, with Prescott helping with layout and Gary printing enclosures, labels and letter.

The holiday party will be Saturday, December 15 at 5:30 p.m. Linda Good will arrange for the location details. All agreed on celebrating with the usual white-elephant-gift exchange and potluck party.

Tilth is actively recruiting new council members for 2013. Members are encouraged to contact recruitment committee members, Gary Ingram and Linda Good, if interested or if they know someone who should be asked. The terms are usually two years, though sometimes a one-year commitment would be sufficient. Linda Good has one more year as president, and board members Annapoone and Gary will be continuing for 2013. Edward was invited to run for another term and he agreed to do so. Members are urged to please consider this great opportunity to serve, because much can be accomplished for South Whidbey farmers, consumers, environmentalists and youth through Tilth's education and outreach programs. The date and time of the annual meeting in January has not been set and a guest speaker is being sought to entertain and educate the Tilth membership.

Land stewardship committee — Concern was expressed that the number of land-based projects was overwhelming Anza, the committee chair. Some effort in some aspects of the use and maintenance of the Tilth land. There was also appreciation expressed to volunteers, like JC May, John Lee, Prescott, Michael Seraphinoff, Lynn Geri, Marc Wilson and others who have offered considerable assistance with Tilth's land stewardship.

Joseph Vasquez is willing to move and reconstruct the farm stand. The discussion was tabled until the December meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next meeting will be December 13 at Trinity Lutheran Church starting with a potluck at 5:30 p.m and the meeting at 6 p.m.

South Whidbey Tilth Council Minutes of December 13, 2012

by Gary Ingram

The meeting began at approximately 6:04 p.m.

Council members present — Edward Huenek, President Linda Good, Annapoone Colangelo, Gary Ingram, Eric Conn and Anza Muenchow. Also present were Jo Stevens, Prescott, John Lee, JC May and Lynae Slinden.

The November 8 business meeting minutes, taken by Anza, had been approved by an earlier-email vote.

Finance — The treasurer’s report by Edward Huenek included a review of financial reports including the 2012 budget versus the actual income and expenses. Edward also distributed the 2013 budget for the council to review. Questions about recent grants were brought up by John Lee and Lynae Slinden and further discussion occurred concerning the 2013 budget. Edward pointed out that to date, South Whidbey Tilth is running at about $3,500 in the red.

Land stewardship — The trench for the electrical line was dug with Stonebridge Environmental, Inc.'s mini excavator at a cost of $495 which the company donated. Tilth paid the $160 labor cost for the equipment operator. Calyx used the electricity last week.

Anza presented a draft of the lease proposed by the Youngs. After discussion, Edward moved that the council accept the lease with a few minor corrections, Anza seconded and all approved.

Anza reported that the electricity installation is complete, but we still need minor repairs on the janitor’s closet before replacing shelving and cabinets. In addition, a water test was completed and it passed.

Education — Eric Conn dis-
by Linda Good

The Tilth holiday party at Living Green was a festive occasion with creative and fun white elephant gifts exchanged.

Then Calyx had its end-of-the-year party at the same place, three days later, with exuberant youthful energy complete with exploding kombucha.

Our annual membership meeting will be 3 to 6 p.m. January 13 at Grigware Hall. We’ll be electing new South Whidbey Tilth Council of Trustee members and thanking Eric Conn and Anza Muenchow for all their hard work. If you might be interested in taking a turn on the council, there is lots to do, and we’d welcome your help. Laura Lewis of Jefferson County Extension Service will present “Overview of the Genetic Commons.” It’s a fascinating presentation about early plant seeds that evolved into more commonly known crops. She gave this presentation at the Tilth Producers’ Conference in November.

May Tilth, Calyx and the Native Plant Stewards all prosper in 2013!

Join Us or Renew

☐ I/we want to join South Whidbey Tilth. There are ___ adults in my household who would like to have voting rights.

(Enclose $25 annual dues for a single membership and $10 for each additional person. One newsletter is mailed to each household.)

I am interested in volunteering: ☐ event planning, ☐ gardening or landscaping, ☐ other _______________________

☐ I/we also want to make a $________ donation to help with the goals of South Whidbey Tilth, a nonprofit corporation, EIN # 91-1456495. Contact me about the South Whidbey Tilth Sustaining Fund.

☐ Please keep my/our donation anonymous. ☐ I/we authorize publication of my/our name(s) as a donor.

☐ As donors I/we want to receive the newsletter. (The newsletter is available for donations of $25 or more.)

Name(s) ___________________________________________________ Phone _____________________________

Mailing address __________________________________________________________ Zip _______________

email ____________________________________________ I want to receive: ☐ email updates ☐ newsletter online

Please mail to: South Whidbey Tilth Association, P.O. Box 252, Langley, Washington 98260 or use PayPal or a credit card to join or donate online, visit swtilthmembership.yolasite.com.
## Calendar

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<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
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<td>8 Tilth Film Night, 6 p.m., Tuesday, potluck, page 3</td>
<td>2 Sound Waters, Oak Harbor High School, page 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Farmers’ Market committee meets, 5 p.m. Wednesday, 4849 Pearl Court, Clinton, page 3</td>
<td>7 to 9 Organicology conference, hosted by Oregon Tilth, Organic Seed Alliance, Sustainable Food Trade Association and Organically Grown Company; registration open until January 15, Organicology website</td>
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<td>10 To Market! to Market!, Part 1: Know your customers, 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., Thursday, Skagit Station, Mount Vernon, host information: Northwest Agriculture Business Center</td>
<td>10 Vendor Orientation, Tilth Farmers’ Market, Sunday, Trinity Lutheran Community building, details email Annapoone</td>
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<td>12 Cascadia Grains Conference, Tacoma, call 360-867-2151 or visit the website</td>
<td>15 Tilth Newsletter production begins for March/April issue, send copy to the newsletter editor</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Calyx School work party, 10 a.m. Saturday</td>
<td>21 Fresh Foods in Schools Summit, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday, Moses Lake, email Joan Qazi or call 509-664-6691</td>
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<td>13 Tilth’s Annual membership meeting, 3 p.m., Saturday, at Trinity Lutheran community building, page 1</td>
<td>March</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Calyx Community Arts School resumes winter session</td>
<td>2 or 9, Washington Tilth annual meeting, 10 a.m. at Seattle Tilth office, email Prescott for details</td>
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<td>21 – 23 Second Thriving Communities Conference, Local Living Economies, at the Whidbey Institute</td>
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### Tilth Membership Directory

Enclosed in this newsletter (or attached, if emailed) is an updated membership directory, **only** for members of South Whidbey Tilth. Partners and Associations will not receive a directory. The directory is intended to promote cooperation and friendship among our members. We ask members to honor each other’s privacy. Look for your membership renewal date. The date is also displayed on your address label. Please renew before this date.

We apologize for any errors and encourage you to contact the membership chair Gary Ingram.