



South Whidbey Tilth

Serving farmers, gardeners and consumers interested in environmentally sound, sustainable and socially equitable agriculture

Volume 31, Number 3

Spring-Early Summer 2013



Looking for a piano? You could win one from Dean Petrich's collection.

It's Raffle Time!

Get your raffle tickets by June 30. The tickets are a bit pricey because the donated prizes are quite special. Tickets are selling for \$5 each or five tickets for \$20.

Dean Petrich has donated an upright piano from his vast collection. It is valued at \$500. "Unless the winner wants to pick out a different one," says Dean. Plus he will include a free cleaning (worth

Raffle time, see page 4

Learn to Compost with Worms

Sign up now for a vermiculture workshop at 11:30 a.m. at the South Whidbey Tilth Farmers' Market on Sunday, June 23. This free workshop is about composting food waste with earthworms and is taught by vermitech specialist Todd Spratt of the BugaBay Company. Spratt has developed and implemented an efficient, effective in-ground system that converts household green waste to earthworm castings — the richest organic soil amendment available. The BugaBay Company is a family business whose focus is on recycling, organic gardening and sustainable lifestyles. Todd and Teresa have practiced composting, organic gardening and sustainability techniques

Acoustic Music Festival Is June 30

The fourth annual South Whidbey Acoustic Music Festival presents the *Year of the Blue Guitar* on Sunday, June 30. Six musical performances are from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the Tilth Farmers' Market on the South Whidbey Tilth Sustainability Campus at 2812 Thompson Road, off SR 525, a half-mile from Bayview and two miles from Freeland. The market is normally open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., but many vendors will have goods for sale the entire time.

Local finger-style guitarist Quinn Fitzpatrick kicks off main stage performances at 11 a.m., followed by Blaine England and Joann Quintana at noon. Young violinists Liv and Gabby Barlow take the stage at 1 p.m.

Highly accomplished singer song-



Brian Kenney strums the blue guitar, symbol of this year's music festival. Brian of Do Re Me Farm is also a musician and sells produce at the Tilth Farmers' Market. Lynae Slinden painted and decorated the guitar, now held by the roadside scarecrow.

writer Karin Blaine presents her urban folk songs starting at 2 p.m. At 3 p.m., Texan Trevor Reichman,



Guest artist Trevor Reichman from Terlingua, Texas

another excellent songwriter, will enthrall listeners with his quietly captivating tunes.

Steve Showell and Joanne Rouse take the stage at 4 p.m. along with their daughter Kendra. The Muse & eye (Russell Clepper and Sarah Dial Primrose) perform the closing set of the day, beginning at 5 p.m.

The event is free, but a \$10 suggested donation would be welcome to support musicians.

Activities for kids include an introduction to stringed instruments for

Music festival, see page 4

Editor's note:

This issue was intended to be published in early May, but it's been a very active spring. The weather has been splendid so campus maintenance has been at the forefront. In April, Tilth played a strong role in the month-long Earth and Ocean activities all over the island, as well as preparing for the South Whidbey Tilth Farmers' Market. We've all been very busy and productive. This issue is dubbed the Spring-Early Summer 2013 newsletter. The South Whidbey Tilth Council of Trustees has agreed to adjust the production schedule for future issues to be around the middle of every other month instead of at the beginning. The next issue will begin production August 1 and will appear mid-August.

Thank you, Prescott

Alert! Singers for the Climate Needed

Margaret Moore is organizing a casual group of singers (accompanied by guitar, tambourine, pots and pans) to sing the Song for the Climate in the Maxwellton Community Independence Day Parade at 1 p.m. on July 4. Contact **Margaret** for details by clicking her name. Listen to it on **YouTube**, learn the **words on YouTube** and join us. It will also be sung at Choochokam, Langley's Annual Festival of the Arts, lead by Island Strings at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, July 6. [Text in green is hyperlinked to the YouTube website, just click on them.]



Identify Giant Hogweed Compare Cow Parsnip

Use caution when controlling Giant Hogweed, it can cause serious burns to exposed skin. This video was created by the Greater Vancouver Invasive Plant Council to help people living in our region to identify Giant Hogweed and to be better able to discern it from the native species, Cow Parsnip. Click on this **YouTube link** or the image above to view the video. Thank you to Mary Donaty for this tip.



WHAT IS TILTH?

Tilth (tilth) n. [fr OE Tilian = th]
a. the quality of cultivated soil,
b. the cultivation of wisdom and the spirit.

South Whidbey Tilth Association is a nonprofit corporation and a chapter of Washington Tilth Association.

MISSION

Washington Tilth Association is an educational and research association, the purpose of which is to support and promote biologically sound and socially equitable agriculture.

South Whidbey Tilth Association is a diverse network of people working cooperatively within our organization and in the community. Our commitment is to advocate, study and teach agricultural practices consistent with stewardship of the natural world. We promote and demonstrate principles and practices of sustainable agriculture, as well as cultivate a variety of opportunities for local market gardeners and farmers.

2013 COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES

President: Linda Good 360-221-6439 president@southwhidbeytilth.org
Finance/Funding: Edward Hueneke 360-331-5806 *So WhidbeyTilth treasurer*
Secretary: VACANT
Membership: Gary Ingram 360-331-0373 *So WhidbeyTilth membership chair*
Education: Marta Mulholland 360-331-7621 *So Whidbey Tilth education chair*
Land Stewardship: Jo Stephens *So Whidbey Tilth land steward*
Market: Annapoorne Colangelo 360-579-3735 *So Whidbey Tilth market committee*

WASHINGTON TILTH REPRESENTATIVE

Prescott 360-544-2278 *So Whidbey Tilth rep to WA Tilth*
Alternate: Marc Wilson 360-579-2890 *So Whidbey Tilth alternate rep*

PROJECT LEADERS

Native Landscape: JC May 360-331-1004 *So Whidbey Tilth native landscape*
Water manager: Vacant
Community Garden: Jo Stephens *So Whidbey Tilth land steward*
Webmaster/Email: Marc Wilson 360-579-2890 *So Whidbey Tilth webmaster*
Calyx School: Lisa Kois 917-859-4522 *Calyx Community Arts School*

CONTRACT SERVICES

Market manager: Lynae Slinden 360-341-4456 *So Whidbey Tilth Farmers' Market*
Newsletter editor: Prescott 360-544-2278 *So Whidbey Tilth newsletter*
Bookkeeper: Jeanne Celeste 360-331-6135 *So Whidbey Tilth bookkeeper*

MEMBERSHIP

South Whidbey Tilth membership is \$25 annually. Additional people in a household may join for \$10 each. The newsletters can be received by email or by USPS mail, one per household. To update membership information, contact **Gary Ingram by email** or call 360-222-3207 or visit swtilthmembership.yolasite.com.

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

The South Whidbey Tilth newsletter is a bimonthly publication of South Whidbey Tilth Association. The primary purpose of this publication is to foster communication among our membership and friends with information about our mission and our organization, including meeting minutes and project reports. A newsletter subscription is \$25. Submissions of letters, articles, book reviews and photos are encouraged. The editorial committee reserves the right to edit for clarity, style and concision. Advertising and opinions in this newsletter are not necessarily the policy of the South Whidbey Tilth Association.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE LATE SUMMER ISSUE IS AUGUST 1

Newsletter committee: A.T. Birmingham-Young, Gary Ingram, Stevie Linton, Prescott and Marc Wilson.

ADVERTISING RATES IN THE NEWSLETTER

Full page \$70, half \$40, quarter \$22 and eighth \$12. **Classified ads** are also available for a dime a word.

HOW TO CONTACT US

Mail to: South Whidbey Tilth
PO Box 252, Langley WA 98260
Phone: 360-221-6439
Email: [info \(at\) South Whidbey Tilth \(.org\)](mailto:info@SouthWhidbeyTilth.org)
Website: www.southwhidbeytilth.org
Physical location: 2812 Thompson Road, off SR 525

Tour Members' Gardens and Farms July 13

The annual summer garden and farm tour for South Whidbey Tilt members is Saturday, July 13. Three sites are on the tour beginning at 2 p.m., ending with a 5 p.m. potluck at the Tilt campus.

The tour begins at the Greenbank Farm Organic Farm School. We'll see what is new and exciting on their eight-acre organic farm. Dani Morrissey will be our guide. She was an intern last year and is the school assistant this year. The Farm School has fields of produce, greenhouses, sheep and chickens all being raised using organic growing principles.

Next we'll drive to Gary Ingram and Pam Nodus' farm in Greenbank. Gary and Pam provide all of their personal protein and most of their vegetables and fruit from their five-acre farm about two miles south of Greenbank. Baby goats, adult goats,

chickens and ducks provide meat, milk and eggs for Gary and Pam. From the Greenbank Store, go south on SR 525 and turn right on Witte Way, a small paved road. Their farm is at the bottom of the hill on the left at 440 Peters Road (Witte Way turns into Peters Road).

We're looking for one more Tilt member with a garden or farm in the Greenbank or Freeland area to visit. Click on [Gary Ingram](#) to email him to volunteer your location.

After the tour we'll head back to South Whidbey Tilt's Sustainability Campus for a potluck. Consider meeting at the campus to carpool. The kitchen has dishes, a propane stove and oven, as well as a refrigerator. If you have an extra cooler, bring it to leave at the campus to help keep food cool while we're on the tour.



Gary and Pam have carved their garden out of the woods.

Lesedi to Lease Parcel for High Tunnel Hoop House



The hoops are being mounted on carefully placed metal poles, so they slide right on. Dorcas Young's helpful contractor neighbor, Tom, set the corners and positioned the poles. With Lynae Slinden's help, the hoops have been mounted.

Dorcas Young of Lesedi Farm has been awarded a grant through the National Conservation Resource Service to build a high tunnel hoop house. For over a year, arrangements have been negotiated for her to lease a quarter acre on the South Whidbey Tilt campus to both farm and install a hoop house. The structure must be in place by June, and Dorcas has been working steadily to prepare the area. According to the guidelines, the covering will not go over the hoops until the fall.

As many people know, Dorcas is a busy woman with a large family and her own product line to maintain, as well as farming. Dorcas is from Botswana, where she met Matt Young when he was a Peace Corps worker.

Dorcas is well known at farmers' markets for her unique

samosas, kale and beet chips, special sauces and soups. She also distributes the sauces in shops all over the Puget Sound region. She draws on the food of her heritage and her brand is Lesedi African Food. As her reputation has spread, people flock to her booth at any market she attends. She is now selling at the South Whidbey Tilt Farmers' Market.

The preparations have been challenging and she appreciates all the help she can get. The hoops are up. She's asking for help to get the deer fence installed. Several members of the community, as well as the Tilt membership have stepped up to help. Please watch for notices of work parties and offer your name if you want her to call on you.

Work Days Now Thursdays

The weekly work parties to maintain the South Whidbey Tilt grounds are on Thursdays during the summer. Join us from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and bring a lunch. Stay as long or as briefly as your schedule can accommodate. These are the immediate needs:

- pull Canada thistle and tansy ragwort before flowering
- clear grass from tree trunks and mulch
- weed and mulch beds, consider adopting one
- repair orchard irrigation
- water young plantings.

Also, in June, we're giving away a free raffle ticket for every two hours of volunteer work. The drawing will be during

Raffle time, from page 1

\$75) and free delivery if it's on South Whidbey and no more than three steps—that's worth \$100.

Britt and Eric Conn have donated a Navajo-style loom with the instruction book, valued at \$150.

A third prize is a gift basket filled with items from Tilth market vendors, local businesses and community members.

Because not everyone would want a piano or loom, ticket stubs have boxes to check your choice of a prize to be entered in.

The raffle is a benefit for South Whidbey Tilth land development projects and educational programs.

Drawings will be held at 1 p.m. on Sunday, June 30 at the South Whidbey Tilth Farmers' Market during the Acoustic Music Festival. You don't need to be present to win, but if you don't come, you'll be missing a good time.

The Tilth Council would really appreciate help selling these 700-plus tickets. If you can take some email **President Linda Good** or call her at 360-221-6439. Come to the Tilth Farmers' Market and help encourage visitors to buy some too. You may get tickets at the market for selling also.

Music festival, from page 1

young children, offered by Island Strings, at 11:45 a.m. in front of the Calyx Community Arts School classroom on the north side of the market area. Cordula Hetland is offering felting activities for children. There's plenty of room for children to run and play on the grounds, including a cob playhouse and a sand box for the very young ones. Bob Effertz is conducting parachute games for children between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Several food vendors will have a variety of tasty treats, including Dorcas Young's Lesedi African cuisine of samosas, soups and cold beverages, Edward Hueneke's Good Food from the pavilion kitchen and Kim McJury, the Left-over Queen, is grilling brats behind the kitchen. Rick Aydelotte is bringing his propane-fired food cart to serve baked potatoes with toppings and dessert sweet potato. The Laughing Cat has hot organic coffee, cold organic lemonade, healthy sodas and scones.

For those who would like to purchase some of the fine organic produce on sale but don't want it to wilt, coolers with ice will be provided until you are ready to leave — labels and marking pens to identify each person's produce will be available. Besides the produce and the prepared foods, there will



The Navajo-style loom includes an instruction book.

The items for the gift basket are rolling in. At press time it contains:

1. *Celebrating Beginnings and Endings* by Paula Pugh, \$22 value
2. *Hometown Heroes*, a book of Susan Knickerbocker's interviews of South Whidbey Islanders who have made significant contributions to the community. The interviews were originally published in the *South Whidbey Record*, \$15 value
3. Tilth Farmers' Market canvas shopping bag, \$20 value
4. Painting by local artist, Alice Thull, \$50 value
5. Lesedi Farm donation by Dorcas Young
6. Soap, three bars, from The Herbal Workshop by Kristen Clausen, \$18 value
7. Music lesson gift certificate by Linda Good for a one-hour music lesson, \$50 value
8. Original watercolor card by Louise Holloway Stanley, value \$20
9. Pack of art cards by Island Strings students, \$5 value
10. Knit hat of alpaca fiber from Paradise Found Fiber Farm by Mary Donaty, \$20 value



This blue knit alpaca fiber hat is one of several items in the gift basket.

be artisan and information booths to visit.

Volunteers are welcome to direct traffic, set up and clean up both the festival and the market. General set up for the festival is Saturday, followed by an evening jam session. There are orange vests for volunteers to direct traffic during the Sunday festival. To help, please email festival coordinator **Russell Clepper** (click name) or call 360-632-0593 or to help with the Tilth Market, email manager **Lynae Slinden** or call her at 360-632-4451.

We need coolers for the day, if you have some to loan, bring them with ice (water frozen in soda bottles works).

Keep up with the **South Whidbey Acoustic Music Festival** developments on its Facebook page, select the green text above to get to its site.

Work days, from page 3

the Acoustic Music Festival on June 30. Be sure to note down your hours on our volunteer forms. For more information, click on **Jo Stephens**, land steward, and send her an email.

Come have some fun with us and spruce up the Tilth campus!

Veterans' Service Corps to Work Tilth Pea Patch Plots

by J.C. May

The Veterans Service Corps (VCS), a project of the Whidbey Island Veterans Resource Center (VRC), will have interested military veterans preparing, planting and harvesting two pea patch plots in the South Whidbey Tilth Community Garden this growing season. This will provide veterans a place to grow some of their own vegetables, as well as provide surplus vegetables for other veterans, their families and the Good Cheer Food Bank.

Vets will have a chance to learn about and experience the beneficial and healing powers both of gardening, growing their own food, and of being of service and giving back to their community. The VCS mission is to provide opportunities, especially to younger returning vets from Iraq and Afghanistan, to apply military service skills and mission teamwork abilities to service projects for one another, their families and their communities; and to give back to the South Whidbey community at large.

Veterans and friends will be preparing the garden plots by tilling, mulching and adding amendments to the soil. They plan to build raised beds and trellises. The VCS coordinators Greg Dalrymple and J.C. May will be working with vets to organize the garden and help determine what vegetables they want to grow. South Whidbey Tilth members and organic farmers will help provide plant starts and advice.

Currently participating veterans want to plant pole beans, squash and brassicas such as chard, kale and broccoli, along with onions and tomatoes.

The VCS hopes to partner with local organic farms, farmers and organizations such as South Whidbey Tilth, the Greenbank

Farm Agriculture Training Center and others to help grow veterans in Island County, like the organization, Growing Veterans In Whatcom and Skagit counties. Growing Veterans has agreements with farms in those counties to provide land and training opportunities to veterans who want to become organic farmers. Founder Christopher Brown was featured in the magazine *Grow Northwest*, November 2, 2012; www.grownorthwest.com/2012/11/growing-veterans-connects-service-members-with-farming-opportunities. Click here for the [Growing Veterans' Facebook page](#).

Veterans returning from military service sometimes have a hard time reintegrating back into civilian life. Engaging in service projects such as sustainable food growing for their local community has the potential to turn feelings of being undervalued and unappreciated into positive and valued community relationships. Vets have motivation, are hardworking and have self-directed, task-oriented skills and abilities that are needed in smaller scale organic farming.



Avery and Kenly, daughters of VRC co-coordinator Greg Dalrymple, helped plant filbert trees at Tilth last winter.

Calyx Activities this Spring and Summer

by the Calyx Kids

At Calyx Community Arts School we cooperate and we learn to solve problems. We work in the garden. And we take care of chickens and grow our food. We play games like Soccer, Color Tag and Salmon, Bear, Mosquito. We cook our meals and eat snack and lunch. We practice Spanish. We notice eagles and hawks. We play in the cob playhouse. We do writing.

On April 20 we got new bees and we saw the bees going into the hive. Linda [Good] stole the chickens! Actually, she just took them to her garden. We played in the playhouse. And we baked pizza in the cob oven.

The summer program, *The Four Directions*, is four weeks of Outdoor Learning and Fun from July 8 to August 1, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The fee is \$150 per week. For more information, contact [Lisa Kois](#) at 360-331-1826 or 917-859-4522 or email her by clicking on her name above in green.

Calyx children plant seeds in their garden with lead teacher Sarah Gillett. Funds for the garden came from the Whidbey Island Garden Tour.



Tilth Farmers' Market — a Happening

New and returning vendors, good music and interesting programs are pulling customers to the South Whidbey Tilth Farmers' Market. Promotional efforts may be paying off as sales are climbing. Look on the Mukilteo/Clinton and Port Townsend/Coupeville ferry runs for our rack card.



Emory Lindgard photo

Game and cutting boards are made by new vendor Jim Warren of Heritage Custom Woodworking.

Market manager Lynae Slin-den has done a good job clarifying the new county health department regulations. She's also created an effective layout of the vendor selling spaces to enhance

the customers' shopping experiences. She can often be found at the freshly painted booth used for hospitality information and as a manager station. The booth is on the north side of the market area, beside the Calyx classroom.

Community members have presented fascinating programs. Linda Good taught a workshop about raising chickens; Steve Layman and his falcon spent a day describing how birds of prey are affected by changing environments; Jean Favini of Oasis for Animal provided information about how to adopt feral farm cats; Bill Haroldson of the South Whidbey Historical Society brought a number of books and old photographs about early fishing resorts on Whidbey.



Kevin Lungren of the Fishin' Club, pictured with a Ling Cod, is presenting several programs this summer at the market

Kevin Lungren of the Fishin'

Club is coming four times this summer to share his knowledge about fishing in these parts. One session is about how to cast a fishing line; bring your poles. Watch for details in the local paper, on Drewslist and through Tilth member email-ings (be sure to get on this list, which is not shared with any other group; contact the membership chair, see page 2).

The market committee and manager are especially grateful to those of you who have helped with setting up and cleaning up the market each Sunday. Thank you to Jo Stephens, Rick Light, Annapoorne Colangelo, Mark Dworkin, Melissa Young, Louise Holloway Stanley, Tom White, Kirsten Clausen, Corey Graves, Edward Hueneke and Michael Seraphinoff. Apologies to anyone not we may have forgotten.



Five colorful new banners fly along the highway to attract customers to the Sunday Market. Thanks to Melanie Sceva of Mullberry Hill Farm who was contracted to purchase and tie-dye them.

Big Help from Middle-schoolers



On May 5 about 20 students from Billings Middle School arrived to put in a day of service before enjoying a campout at Fort Casey State Park for a graduation trip. They made a big difference, working around many of the trees in the orchard and around the landscape. They pulled out grass, covered the area the base of each tree trunk with burlap and laid a mulch of wood chips.

Welcome New Members!

Marlowe Brown
Jodi Cable
Laurie Coomber
Corey Graves
Mark Gmerek
Ed Keimach
Tim Mitchell
Erin and Walter Ruthensteiner

Christina Moats
Jean Nelson
Janella Riegel
Todd Spratt
Judy Thomas
Thomas Vincent
Tom White

Thank you for joining us. To receive regular updates of South Whidbey Tilth events send Gary Ingram, membership chair, your email address. Contact him at gary@cbwhidbey.com. Email addresses are not shared with any other organization. Contact Gary for the current membership directory.

Members may renew using the form on [page <MP>](#).

President's Column: New Avian Bird Flu Is H7N9

by Linda Good, president

In the last newsletter there was a picture of me with a Naked-neck chicken. Unfortunately all four of the chickens turned out to be roosters. With Anza Muenchow's help they have been made into soup.

Those who know me are aware that I've been following the avian influenza situation for years, and now there is a new strain H7N9 which is spreading in China. Recent reports indicate new cases are slowing. The latest report states 39 deaths out of 133 cases have occurred. None have been reported in the United States. Health officials are watching closely to see

Summer Party Time

Save the date and watch for details about South Whidbey Tilth's annual summer party. We'll gather about 5:30 p.m., Thursday, August 8 at the Sustainability Campus, 2812 Thompson Road. Bring a potluck dish to share and plan to enjoy whatever Chef Edward Hueneke throws on the grill. Dance to the Tim Donovan Band.

There will be tours of the grounds to look at what you, as members and supporters, have helped do with our 11-acre campus. This special event is a thank-you to all our friends. To help plan, email [Gary Ingram](mailto:Gary.Ingram@tilth.org), membership chair, by clicking on his name in green.

if any human to human cases have occurred. Colleen Keefe is the communicable disease specialist for Island County, and she sent me a link from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) which says:

CDC is following this situation closely and coordinating with domestic and international partners. In addition, CDC has issued guidance to U.S. clinicians and public health departments on how to test for this virus, and interim guidance on case definitions for possible H7N9 cases in the United States and interim infection control guidance for U.S. health care workers. CDC also has developed information for travelers to China. (This information was found on the [CDC website](http://www.cdc.gov), select the green text to view it.)

Meanwhile, those of us who care for chickens would do well to take precautions like washing hands after holding chickens, and keeping our coops clean and, hopefully, avoiding contact with wild birds.



Judy Brown photo

Linda, working in her garden plot at Tilth, is using one of the Caylx chickens to help till the ground as it scratches for insects and worms.

BUSINESS OF SOUTH WHIDBEY TILTH

South Whidbey Tilth Business Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2013

by Gary Ingram

The business meeting of the South Whidbey Tilth Council Trustees was called to order at about 6 p.m. on March 14, 2013, by President Linda Good. The members present included council members Jo Stephens, Gary Ingram, Linda Good and Edward Hueneke. Other members present were J.C. May and Prescott.

The minutes of the February 7, 2013 business meeting, taken by Prescott, were approved.

Finance — J.C. May talked about the upcoming fundraising meeting and that J.C. and John

Lee were working on a plan to present to the council. Linda Good made a motion to have a raffle for three major items that have been donated to Tilth. The drawing would be June 30 during the music festival. Seconded by Prescott and all approved. Linda also showed a sample of a Tilth market bag that could be raffled and would report back to the council on pricing.

Edward reported that we are now members of Washington State Farmers Markets Association. Also that our Puget Sound Energy bill has increased from a normal winter cost of about \$10

per month to \$40.

Education — No report.

Land stewardship — Jo Stephens reported that all of the plots in the community garden have been reserved. Jo moved to buy and install a deer fence around the gardens, seconded by Prescott and all approved for an amount not to exceed \$300.

Jo said she would set up work party days to paint.

Market committee — Lynae Slinden talked about vendor insurance and short term loans that are now available for sustainable farmers through Human-

Links Foundation. Preparation has begun for the annual music day at Tilth.

Membership — The annual summer party was scheduled for Thursday, August 8 from 5:30 p.m. to dark.

Events/Newsletter — Prescott discussed Earth & Ocean Month activities listed on the website www.whidbeyearthday.org. Also, Washington Tilth will no longer carry the 501(c)3 and we will need to get our own determination from the IRS.

Adjournment — The meeting was adjourned about 8:30 p.m.

South Whidbey Tilth Business Meeting Minutes for April 11, 2013

by Marta Mulholland, Jo Stephens and Annapoorne Colangelo

The business meeting of the South Whidbey Tilth Council Trustees was called to order about 6:10 p.m. on April 11, by President Linda Good. Present

were council members Gary Ingram, Edward Hueneke, Annapoorne Colangelo, Jo Stephens and Marta Mulholland, and Tilth member Prescott.

The minutes from the March 14 meeting were approved.

Finance — finance chair Edward Hueneke reported that Tilth is \$100 further in the red than last month, but is in good shape for this time of year. It was clarified that when mail comes with a check enclosed, it goes to Gary Ingram for deposit. Marta said

Calyx is also in good shape, despite having spent more than they've taken in this year. A question was raised about how the application for Tilth's 501(c)3 status is coming along.

April 11 minutes, see page 8

April 11 minutes, from page 7

Education — education chair Marta Mulholland reported on the vegetable-growing classes held in March. Linda said she attended three of the four classes, and that the average attendance was about six people — better than last year. Tilth earned \$250 from the classes, with no expenses. Linda said she will send class coordinator Anza Muenchow a thank-you note.

Calyx Community Arts School: Marta reported that Calyx will be at the Tilth campus on Mondays and Tuesdays, with June 4 being the last day of the school year. The Calyx newsletter can be seen on the Calyx Community Arts School website. Summer camp is from July 8 to August 1, which will be a four-day week, three of which will be at Tilth. They will be advertising it; the maximum enrollment is 14.

Marta mentioned that the pilot light for the water heater is not lighting, and Edward said he will set it.

Calyx folks are looking for a larger building/place for the children's school in the fall. They presently have seven boys (two of whom are new) and two girls, or one child from nine families. One of the places they are considering is the South Whidbey State Park, as there is a bus from there to Tilth. This would be helpful for the program, as they can continue utilizing their garden and playhouse.

Marta had to leave at 6:30, so Annapoorne and Jo took over recording the minutes.

Market — Annapoorne reported there will be a work party Saturday, April 13, to paint booths and spruce up the market. Jo has sent emails informing and requesting volunteers. The booth to the left of Calyx classroom, if facing the booths, will be a "Hospitality Booth" and will have information about Tilth, plants, etc.

So far, Market Manager Lynae has seven completed vendor applications with fee payment from six of them. One is from a produce seller in Mount Vernon. Three vendors from previous

years have expressed interest but not yet sent in their agreement and fee.

Lynae's efforts to attract and support vendors was noted. She contacted a vendor about a table and umbrella at Good Cheer and the vendor quickly acquired it — at a discount. She is also working on a booth repair for a vendor with physical limitations.

Russell Clepper, Acoustic Music Festival coordinator, is willing to help move the floor from the old farm stand to create a stage at the lower end of the market area.

Anza had suggested an exposed extension cord presents a safety hazard. Lynae found a cover at a thrift shop for \$10. It was unanimously voted to reimburse Lynae.

Market manager agreement: The document defines responsibilities of the council to the manager and vice-versa. The job description, as adjusted by members of the Market committee, was discussed. Annapoorne moved to approve, Jo seconded and it was approved for signing by the president and market manager.

Copyright laws: Linda showed a letter she had received as president of Tilth the prior day from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) regarding copyright laws for music performed at farmers' markets. Discussion included a review of our liability and a suggestion to ask attorneys and other markets. A member reported the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island was fined \$10,000 for a violation. Edward will study the letter and advise at the May meeting.

[The market manager, who was unable to attend the meeting, reported the next day that the Washington State Farmers' Markets Association has been working with a pro bono lawyer with the national Farmers' Market Coalition to develop a reasonable proposal for ASCAP, as well as the two other large music-

licensing companies. The goal is to create a farmers' market fee that fits within a farmers' market's budget. In the meantime our president and market music coordinator prepared a message to the musicians she invites to perform at the Tilth Farmers' Market: *Musicians need to be aware of the U.S. Copyright Law and fully respect its authority with regard to the playing of live music. All music played at the South Whidbey Tilth Farmers' Market is required to be of the musician's own authorship or in the public domain.*]

Volunteers are needed each market day to assist Lynae with set up and clean up. Market committee members will coordinate volunteer help for the market, each member taking a month to solicit those volunteers.

Land stewardship — Jo reported that most of the fence around the community garden is completed. Volunteers used old wire fencing at the bottom and \$40 of bird netting for the top. The gardener in the adjacent plot has not completed their end. The gates still need work. Attempts have been made at tilling, and several pea patchers are working on the machine.

Pea patch: Some gardeners have not paid their fees.

Work parties: "We need help," said Jo. She has a conflict with Saturday work parties now and suggested weekly work days be moved to Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. beginning in May. No one objected.

Field cats: Oasis will come on May 19 to talk about keeping outdoor cats for vermin control.

Chicken fence: Lisa Kois is in charge of a fenced chicken run around the Calyx garden. Edward asked about looking for such fencing around the community garden.

Custodial room: It was noted the room still needs to be prepared before the market starts. Attempts to have a tempering valve donated have failed. The estimated cost of a new one is \$100. It is needed because

of complaints the solar-heated water is too hot and users, especially children, may be burned. Blaine England will install the valve. Linda moved one be purchased and all agreed. Prescott will follow up, ordering online after checking with one other local hardware.

Newsletter — Prescott asked that articles be submitted by Friday, April 19, for the May/June newsletter.

Events — Prescott, Tilth's Earth and Ocean Month planning committee representative, called everyone's attention to the website www.whidbeyearthday.org listing the events of the Island-wide Earth and Ocean Month. She asked for volunteer help with Elliott Menashe's lecture "A Brief History of the Salish Sea," Sunday, April 21. Annapoorne will check her schedule.

Help is also needed Saturday April 27 for staffing the Tilth display at Zeck Hall at the Whidbey Island Center for the Arts (WICA) and Tilth volunteers are needed to set up and clean up the information and networking display area and the auditorium for the last few Earth and Ocean Month activities on Saturday. She noted Island Strings is performing at 12:30 p.m. in the WICA lobby, James Balog's movie, *Chasing Ice*, will be shown in the WICA auditorium at 1 p.m. The raffle is for a signed copy of Balog's book, *Ice: Portraits of the World's Vanishing Glaciers*, which was donated by the Moonraker Bookstore owner.

The Acoustic Music Festival is set to happen at Tilth again on Sunday, June 30. Lynae is working with Russell on this.

Old business

Tilth library collection — A former Transition Whidbey member discovered a box of books belonging to Tilth in her garage. Apparently the Transition Whidbey intern, charged with closing the office, was not informed the collection of books was our library. Linda offered to make an effort to retrieve the box

April 11 minutes, see page 9

April 11 minutes, from page 8

and, hopefully, others and keep them at her house.

Dogs-on-leash policy — Following a complaint about dogs out of control in the upper meadow on a Native Plant Stewards (NPS) work day, it was decided we will post signs (one at the market's entry gate and one by the forest) stating dogs must be on leash during events at Tilth, but voice control may be fine for casual activities,

but never around the NPS plant nursery and planting area.

The current NPS contract ends August 31, 2015, but negotiations for the next agreement must begin two months prior.

Adjournment — The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Upcoming meetings — The monthly business meeting of the South Whidbey Tilth governing

board, Council of Trustees, is the second Thursday of every month, except August. Meetings are open and every member of South Whidbey Tilth may participate and vote.

Meetings begin at 6 p.m. preceded with a potluck at 5:30.

The meeting on May 9 took place at the Tilth Sustainable Agriculture Campus on the pavil-

ion porch. The monthly business meetings will be there through September 12. The next meetings are Thursday, June 13 and July 11.

To place an item on the meeting agenda, please *email President Linda Good* or call 360-221-6439.

South Whidbey Tilth Business Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2013

by Edward Hueneke

The regular business meeting of South Whidbey Tilth was called to order at 6 p.m. by President Linda Good on Thursday, May 9 at the South Whidbey Tilth campus. Council trustees present were Edward Hueneke, Gary Ingram and Jo Stevens (Marta Mulholland was unable to stay but left a written report about Calyx activity). Also present were Prescott, Lynae Slinden and J.C. May. Present for portions of the meeting were Michael Seraphinoff and Russell Clepper.

Approval of April minutes — the minutes from the April 11 business meeting were reviewed, discussed, corrected and approved. Prescott passed around minute-taking instructions and otherwise offered instruction as to how the minutes should be captured and what should be captured.

Campus facilities — The group then walked the campus being shown where and how to turn off water and electricity in the case of happenstance. Jo suggested posting a contact number somewhere with visibility should anybody (such as police) need to contact a representative of our organization.

Finance — Each member of the council received a copy of the April 2013 Balance sheet and a Budget-to-Actual Income and Expense comparison to review this year to last year at this time.

Membership — Gary reported there are members ...

Education — Calyx has begun an after-school program at Legacy Forest on Wednesdays. They have had two sessions and attendance was the maximum of 15 children. The summer program is expected to be at full capacity for each of the four weeks it

will operate. Calyx will lock their classroom as the door was found open, but will freely grant access via key. Discussions with the State Park as to a possible future classroom site are ongoing.

Land stewardship — Jo informed the council the work party on May 9 was attended by only Prescott and herself. Work parties are each Thursday. There is an ongoing effort to get the campus tiller to function; Jo asked that those who have used it and know the idiosyncrasies of it might please share that information her. She recommends arrangements to service the tiller begin each November to avoid trying to find a repair person at this busy time. The May 16 work party is dedicated to helping set up the Youngs' high tunnel hoop house. Edward will add Jo to the list of people eligible to charge under South Whidbey Tilth's

name at Sebo's and Hanson's.

Market — Lynae indicated the market is slightly below last year's numbers for sales and attendance. She offered that there was good volunteer help to set up the market but not so good volunteer participation for taking it down. Russell indicated he had at least six performers for the music festival. The group decided to inquire about a one-time music rights permit for that occasion.

Next meeting — The next South Whidbey Tilth business meeting was held June 13. Its minutes will be available in the next newsletter. The next meeting is Thursday, July 8 at 6 p.m. at the South Whidbey Tilth Sustainability campus, preceded by a potluck at 5:30. Every Tilth member is welcome to participate in the potluck and attend the meeting. *Email President Good* with agenda items.

Join, Renew or Donate to Tilth's Projects

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. Please list **each** member's name.)

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.

Enclosed is a donation to the Calyx Community Arts School, \$_____

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 to join or donate online at swtilthmembership.yolasite.com.

CALENDAR

JUNE

- 22 Whidbey Island Garden Tour, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, *visit the tour's website for information*
- 23 Vermiculture workshop by BugaBay, 11:30 a.m., Sunday, Tilth Market, reservations see *page 1*
- 23 Nick Toombs on 6- and 12-string guitar at Tilth Market
- 30 South Whidbey Acoustic Music Festival, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the Tilth Sustainability Campus, see *page 1*

JULY

- 7 Alex Bonesteel on violin at Tilth Market
- 8 Calyx summer program begins, see *page 5*
- 11 Business meeting of South Whidbey Tilth Council, 6 p.m., Thursday at Tilth campus; potluck at 5:30

Farm and Food Calendar and News

GRANGE FOOD NEWS is a newsletter Chris Williams writes about food and farming on Whidbey. Anybody can get on the list; it's free. *Email Chris Williams*. Also email her to put something in about an event or an item wanted or for sale that is food or farming related; that too is free, but it is Chris's decision whether to include it. Please give as much advance notice as possible because this newsletter goes out on an irregular schedule. For a complete events calendar, go to the blog *Whidbey Island Farm and Food News*, maintained by Claire Acord. Input and help from others is welcome.



SOUTH WHIDBEY TILTH ASSOCIATION
 A Nonprofit Corporation and a Chapter of Washington Tilth
 Post Office Box 252
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www.southwhidbeytilth.org

- 13 Tilth Member Farm and Garden Tour, 2 p.m. to dusk; begin at Greenbank Farm, end at Tilth campus, *page 3*
- 14 Fishing program by Kevin Lungren at the market
- 14 Danny Ward performs jazz at Tilth Market
- 21 Russell Clepper performs original songs at Tilth Market
- 28 Fishing program by Kevin Lungren at the market
- 28 Timothy Hull, musician, performs at Tilth Market

AUGUST

- 1 Deadline for Tilth newsletter, send ideas, pictures, articles to *Prescott*
- 4 Fishing program by Kevin Lungren at the market
- 4 Nick Toombs on six- and 12-string guitar at Tilth Market
- 8 Annual summer party to thank supporters of South Whidbey Tilth, 5:30 p.m., Thursday, grilled salmon, potluck, campus tours, music, fun
- 11 Garden creature workshop with the Grange, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Tilth market, adult and youth helpers welcome
- 11 Rumi and Arthur Keast and friends perform music at Tilth market

ONGOING

- Thursday work parties to maintain the Tilth Sustainable Agriculture Campus, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., bring a lunch; for information contact *Jo Stephens*
- Sunday South Whidbey Tilth Farmers' Market, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. through October 27

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