Hello again. I am feeling better but still do not know what caused my medical issues. I thank everyone for the prayers and the cards that I received.

This E-News contains a request from Michael Judd to help him with his Kick Start request. He wants to write and publish a manual on pawpaws titled, “For the Love of Pawpaws, From Seed to Table.” Please be generous in your support for Michael in his efforts.

An agenda for the OPGA Annual Meeting in Wilmington, OH is attached as well as registration form and directions to Wilmington, Ohio.

Mark Stadler, the program coordinator for the Annual Meeting has invited a guest speaker this year from North Carolina. Susan Preston Owen has agreed to be our special speaker. She is the owner of The Lilly Patch Farm in Vilas, NC. Her farm is the oldest organic farm in Watauga, NC with 42 acres and consists of “a reimagined greenhouse, a timber-framed pavilion by the pond, an old barn, wild flowers, orchards, fields, woodlands—all combine for perfect mountain wedding memories.” She specializes in weddings and farm to table catering.

I have from a reliable source that she is an excellent speaker and is excited about North American pawpaws.

The focus of this year’s annual meeting will be on establishing a NA pawpaw orchard. Brad Bergefur and Matt Davies submitted a research proposal entitled, “Resource-Efficient, Ecologically Sustainable Pawpaw Orchard Production and Marketing Systems for Ohio”. A brief summary follows and they will provide additional information at the meeting.

The overarching aim of this project is to provide existing and new pawpaw growers with an improved understanding of pawpaw varietal productivity and quality in Ohio. We will achieve this aim by completing X objectives:

1) Evaluate pawpaw productivity, fruit quality and disease susceptibility associated with a network of existing pawpaw plantings in Ohio. This will be achieved through collaboration with pawpaw producers and enthusiasts facilitated by the Ohio Pawpaw Growers Association.

2) Establish experimental pawpaw orchards across campuses of Ohio State University, that represent a range of bioclimatic conditions observed in Ohio.

3) Assess variation in pawpaw growth and establishment as a function of variety, rootstock source and site management.

4) Evaluate methods to improve the productivity of wild pawpaw stands including thinning, in-grafting of commercial varietals and hand pollination.
Michael Judd of Long Creek Homestead in Frederick Maryland is creating a mini-manual for growing and caring for North American pawpaws from Seed to Table.

By helping to Kick Start this NA pawpaw mini-manual you will be helping “to create a resource that will inspire and guide thousands to plant and care for tree that provides food, medicine, habitat, and regenerate ecosystems.”

The NA pawpaw mini-manual is going to focus on growing, caring for, harvesting, and using pawpaws from seed to table. Michael is self-publishing the mini-manual. He will write, edit with the help of a pro, design with the help of a professional designer and then to make printer ready files.

Michael states: “The Kickstarter campaign runs until March 25th, not sure if you have a planned email blast before then. I will put two link codes here (both for the same page) in hopes it can be shared in the newsletter and other social media sites such as Facebook. Seems these days things have to be repeatedly posted to grab the ever shortening attention span!”

The campaign page has lots of info about the publication but if you'd like any more blurbs direct from me please shoot me an email.

Michael

campesinomike@hotmail.com or michael@projectbonafide.com

As always, very appreciative of your efforts.

Michael


or the bitly link: http://bit.ly/fortheloveofpawpaws

Michael Judd 'For the Love of Paw Paws - From Seed to Table'

Please support Michael in his worthwhile project he is planning to undertake.

Ron Powell, President, NAPGA
Ohio Pawpaw Growers Association
Wilmington College, Wilmington, OH
Saturday May 19, 2018

8:45 am Registration
9:30 am Introduction and welcome: President Ron Powell
   Introduction of guests, officers, Board of Directors
9:45 am Speakers: Brad Bergefurd and Matt Davies
   OSU Research
10:15 am Speaker: Susan Preston Owen, NC
   Growing from seed
   Site selection / orchard setup
   Wild vs cultivated / improving your wild pawpaws
   Cultivars / varieties
   Planting and care / bare root and potted
   Training / pruning
   Harvesting best practices
   Processing
   Marketing
   Q & A / Closure

11:30 am OPGA Annual Meeting agenda

Old Business:
1. Minutes of 2017 Annual Meeting
2. Treasurer’s Report – Dave Simpson, Treasurer
3. Membership Report & Geographical spread of members/attendees – Ron
4. Facebook page – Greg & Susan Hoertt
5. Yahoo discussion group – Tony Russell
6. Other old business

New Business
   Board Elections
   Suggestions for 2019

12:15 pm Lunch (time will be limited to 45 min.)
1:00 pm Grafting demonstration
? Pawpaw planting visit if weather and time permits
2018 OPGA Workshop Registration Form

The 2018 Annual Meeting will be held at Wilmington College on May 19th
Center for Sciences and Agriculture on College Ave, Wilmington, OH

By Mail: Complete the information section below and return with the registration fee to:
NAPGA/OPGA, ℅ Ron Powell, 6549 Amelia Dr, Cincinnati, OH 45241

or

Email Ron at botrytis@fuse.net

513-777-8367

$12.00 — each for NAPGA/OPGA members and $15.00— each for non-members

The registration fee includes coffee and bagels at registration, and lunch. A small NA pawpaw seedling and NA pawpaw scion wood to take home with you will be provided. A grafting demonstration will be presented by NAPGA/OPGA members. A visit to the Wilmington College farm NA pawpaw planting will take place in the afternoon, if weather and time permits.

Completed registrations by May 14th are appreciated.
Salad and vegetables available for vegetarians.
Please make checks payable to: NAPGA or OPGA.

Name: _____________________________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip: _______________________________________________________

Phone:____________________________Email:_____________________________
Directions to the 2018 OPGA Annual meeting at Wilmington College
In the
Center for Sciences and Agriculture (CSA)

From the south:
Take I-71 north to State Route 73 (exit 45). Follow 73 east toward Wilmington. There is a new bypass in which Route 73 goes around Wilmington, so you will want to make a right turn onto Mitchell Road at the first stoplight, and then make a left turn onto Old Route 73 (Wayne Road) to continue into town. This will bring you through the business district of the town. Turn right onto College Street. The Center for Sciences and Agriculture is on the left.

From the north:
Take I-71 south to U.S. 68. Follow 68 south into Wilmington. Turn left onto Main Street and follow it through Wilmington to College Street. Turn right onto College Street. The Center for Sciences and Agriculture is on the left.

From the east:
Follow State Route 22-3 west through Wilmington. Turn left onto College Street. The Center for Sciences and Agriculture is on the left.

This year we will be holding the annual meeting in the Center for Sciences and Agriculture (CSA). The CSA is located between Douglas and Elm St. The CSA is on the left side.

Registration will begin at 8:45 on Saturday, May 19. Susan Preston Owen is the featured speaker.

Ron