



NAPGA E-zine

A Publication of the North American Pawpaw Growers Association

Volume 1, Issue 4, December

2015 OPGA Calendar of Events

Event	Date	Time	Contact	Location
OPGA Annual Meeting	May 16th	10 am – 3 pm	Ron Powell 513-777-8367	Wilmington College Wilmington, OH
Grafting Workshop	May 5th	?	Lynn Vogel 330-297-7633	Camp Asbury Portage County, OH SWCD
Grafting @ Gwynne Center	To be determined	?	Tony Russell ohionativefruits@yahoo.com	Gwynne Conservation Center, London, OH
Grafting @ OSU South Center	To be determined	?	Ron Powell 513-777-8367	OSU South Center, Piketon, OH
NNGA	July 26 - 29	AM & PM	Nutgrowing.org	Wisconsin
Ohio Pawpaw Festival	Sept 11th – 13th	Fri – 4 pm/12 am Sat – 10 am/12 am Sun – 10 am/4 pm	Chris Chmiel (Trademark owner) OhioPawpawfest.com	Lake Snowden, Ohio Near Athens, Ohio
Boone County Cooperative Ext. Service Pawpaw tasting	Sept ?	Evening ?	Lacey Laudick 858-586-6101	Boone County, KY
KYSU 3rd Thursday	Sept 17th	9 am – 3 pm	Dr. Pomper www.pawpaw.KYSU.edu	KYSU Research Farm, Frankfort, KY
LOUA Apps Festival	?	?	Tony Russell ohionativefruits@yahoo.com	Columbus, OH
Paul Bunyan Show	October 2nd – 4th	8 am – 6 pm 9 am – 3 pm	Ron Powell 513-777-8367	Cambridge, OH

**If you would like to help at any event, please let Ron (513-777-8367) know of your interest.
If you would like to have a pawpaw event listed, contact Ron.**

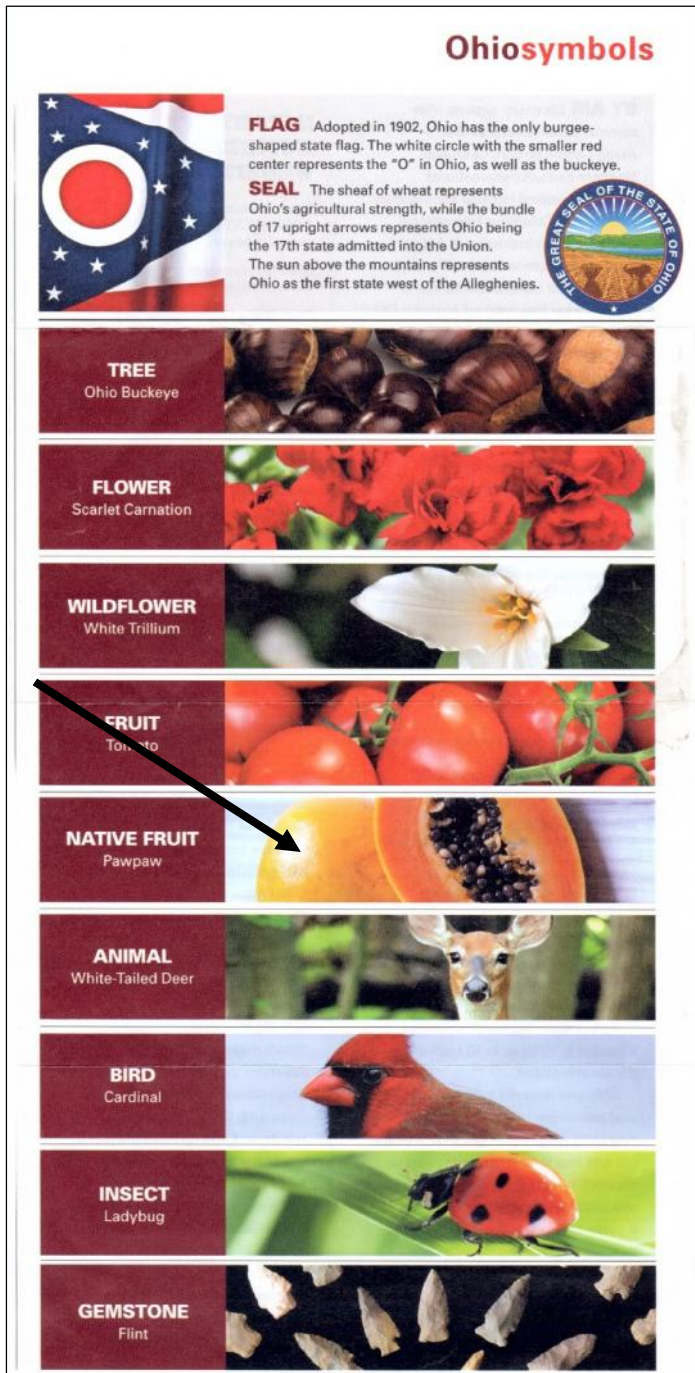
contact us at: WWW.NAPGA.com or www.Ohiopawpaw.com

Contact the pawpaw discussion group at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Ohiopawpaw>

December 2014

I say pawpaw, you say papaya

I just don't know how to emphasize that we must continue to distinguish papaya/pawpaw (*Carica papaya*) from the North American pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*). I have collected a number of articles on papaya and even an article from an Ohio government web site on the symbols of Ohio. This site included a picture of the NA paw-



paw that was actually papaya! I have included the web page symbols. Thanks to NAPGA /OPGA member Dick Glaser for bringing this to my attention.

Other articles related to papaya include:

“Mauritius researchers say green tea and pawpaw can prevent diabetes” October 05, 2013

English.peopledaily.com.cn/90782/8417180.html

“TZ scientists create high-yielding pawpaw variant”

Tuesday, 16 April 2013

<http://thecitizen.co.tz>

“Pawpaw, Remedy For Treating Various Diseases”

Wednesday, June 26, 2013

Nigerian Observer Online Edition

“We have succeeded in producing pawpaw tea and wine – Prof Egwari”

March 15, 2012

In Education

Email2

“Pawpaw, both a food and medicine”

by Sade Oguntola

Thursday, 24 October

<http://tribune.com.ng>

“Think Pink: The All-Natural Paw Paw Balm You Need in your handbag”

November 18, 2013

<http://www.bellasugar.com.au/author/Sponsor>

The above listed article titles all refer to papaya! I will continue to use North American pawpaw when referring to *Asimina triloba*. All of the NAPGA and OPGA publications and handouts will continue to use **NA pawpaw** when referring to *Asimina triloba*.

When searching the web for “pawpaw,” you will more than likely find more articles on papaya than you will pawpaw! I do hope that the authors of articles on *Asimina triloba* will be more vigilant in the future when choosing and using the correct pictures of *Asimina triloba* and not *Carica papaya*.

Cultural Ties are Renewed Between First Nations and the NA Pawpaw

by Dan Bissonnette

The Chippewas on the Thames First Nations, a reserve with about 900 residents near Melborne Ont., has invited the Naturalized Habitat Network coordinator Dan Bissonnette of Essex County and Windsor to provide insights on the native NA pawpaw fruit. This is part of an ongoing program by the Chippewas called, "Feasting for Change."

For members of First Nations, interest in the NA pawpaw is more than just a horticultural curiosity; it is about reclaiming a lost part of their culture and history. It is also about moving back to a way of life that includes healthy indigenous foods.

Feasting for Change is not just about various lost or forgotten foods. A large part of the program is reviving traditional feasting practices. It is also about bringing families and communities together. Part of the program is to promote a diet and lifestyle that reduces the risk of chronic diseases like diabetes, heart disease and cancer. They hope to learn the value of the old ways.

The First Nations people through the processes of colonization and aggressive assimilation were removed from their territories and forced away from harvesting their own lands where they would have had access to highly nutritious indigenous foods. Farmland among the Chippewa on the Thames is still scarce but if the program continues to grow, hope is that the program will grow to include community gardens and possibly a NA pawpaw grove.

Bissonnette commented on the invitation from the Chippewas. "This is an incredible honor for me," he said. "Had history taken a different turn, I might have been learning about the NA pawpaw from them. It's overwhelming for me to think that what started as a little pet project could help to restore a part of an indig-

enous people's heritage."

Historically, the sweet, pear-sized fruit of the NA pawpaw would have been part of the seasonal indigenous diet throughout southern Ontario and the eastern United States. However, this species was limited in its Canadian range and it did not grow everywhere. As the First Nations were relegated to reserves in the 1800's, many of these lands had no NA pawpaw growing there. Over time, the connection between the native people and the NA pawpaw or "Assemina" as they called it, was severed. That appears to have been the case for the Chippewa on the Thames, whose reserve was established south of Delaware in 1819, creating what Bissonnette describes as a "cultural disconnect" between an indigenous people and a vital autumn food source.

Unusual NA Pawpaw Discovered

Jason Neumann, Public Programs Manager at the Cincinnati Nature Center, sent the following picture to me of a small NA pawpaw plant that he discovered at the CNC. It is probably a chimera. "A chimera is a single organism composed of genetically distinct cells," according to Wikipedia, 12/2014.



We would like to hear about your experiences and pictures would be welcomed. This is your time to speak out about your successes and questions about NA pawpaws.

CNC Work Days: NA Pawpaw Grafting

by Jason Neumann

Cincinnati Nature Center has been improving native two acre NA pawpaw grove on its Long Branch Farm & trails site near Goshen, OH since the spring of 2003. Every September, we offer guided NA pawpaw grove hikes for our members, home-school groups and a native edibles foraging group.

We continue to add more opportunities for guests in the form of "learn while you work" projects. In May 2014, we offered two grafting and invasive plant removal days in the NA pawpaw grove.

After a brief grafting demonstration by Ron Powell, volunteer grafters were sent out to try their hand at grafting in the



Pictured left to right: Charlie Pratt, Ron Powell (President OPGA), Cathy Corsmeier, Mark Castator, Cherry Mayo, Paul Evans, & Mike Jagoditz (OPGA member). Not pictured: land management volunteer Jim Downey and CNC Public Programs Manager Jason Neumann (OPGA BOD member).

Grove. The group was able to complete 30+ grafts in two 2-hour sessions. A September survey of their work showed that



about 40% of the grafts were successful. While this success rate is relatively low, work projects like invasive plant removal, grafting and leading tour groups in the NA pawpaw grove help volunteers become invested in the organization and the project. Invested volunteers are more likely

to volunteer in the future.

In the summer of 2014, many of those who helped graft asked "How did the grafts do?" and, more specifically, "How did my grafts do?" Next year, we'll have each grafting volunteer sign his or her name on the labels of the trees they grafted. Light-hearted competition has the potential to add even more enjoyment



and volunteer investment to the project.

CNC will be offering pawpaw grove work and grafting days again in May of 2015. If you are in the Cincinnati area and would like to assist, please contact Jason Neumann at jneumann@cincynature.org.

Wilmington College's Ag. Program Receives Scholarship from NAPGA / OPGA



This past November, Dick Glaser and Ron Powell, NAPGA/OPGA members presented Monte Anderson, Professor of Agriculture (far left) and Matt Wahrhaftig, interim VP of Advancement, (third from left) with a check for \$250 for a deserving student enrolled in the Ag program at Wilmington College.