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BYLAWS PAGES 8-13, MESSAGE FROM VICE-PRESIDENT BRETT MERRITT AND QUESTIONNAIRE PAGE 14. PLEASE READ, FILL OUT THE QUESTIONNAIRE, BRING BYLAWS AND QUESTIONNAIRE TO JANUARY 23 BUSINESS MEETING!

Gritt's Midway Greenhouse Managed by Third Generation

Gritt's Midway Greenhouse Growers of Excellent Plants

It had been more than 10 years since last I had visited Gritt's Midway Greenhouse in Red House, Putnam County, and I was a little worried that I might get lost and arrive late. Not to worry, I recognized the familiar landmarks and arrived in time to have a little lunch before knocking on the office door and being greeted by manager Penny Goff. (I actually had time to renew acquaintance with a former WVU Hort student, Vincent Grossi, head grower for Gritt's, before heading for the office.)

Penny told me that her grandfather, Tony Gritt, started the business in 1944. He had been working for a chemical plant. His parents came to West Virginia from Italy and worked in the coal mines. He had begun to work beside his father in the mines at the age of 13 when his father looked at the boy following him into the coal mine, decided not to start his son on such a life and moved to Buffalo where he bought a farm. Tony bought the Red House property in 1925 at about the age of 20. There he grew vegetables and raised chickens and eggs, which he peddled in Charleston. He built a greenhouse to start his vegetable seedlings and soon his neighbors were asking him to raise seedlings for their gardens. He built more greenhouse space to meet the increasing demand and added Easter lilies, poinsettias and a few flowering bedding plants to the vegetables. In 1973, his son Jim quit his job at FMC, went to work with his dad in the greenhouses and began to buy the business.



Manager Penny Goff standing by the day's harvest of greenhouse tomatoes being packed for shipment to market from Gritt's Midway Greenhouses.

(Continued on pages 2 & 3)



(Gritt's Midway Greenhouses continued from page 1)
The foliage plant part of the business began with the making and selling of terrariums. Jim went to Weston to get glass for the terrariums and his mother, Barbara, put the terrariums together and planted the plants. Penny remembers when her job, at the age of 13, was to line the terrariums with peat moss and place rocks, animals and other decorations inside to prepare them for planting.

During the mid to late 1970's, Jim Gritt and Bill Shanklin took a truck to Florida to pick up loads of foliage which they split 50/50 between them and sold to area florists. Gritt's continues this operation to this day, selling foliage, dish gardens and holiday plants to an area including VA, KY, OH, TN and WV. They make about 600 dish gardens each day. Their biggest crop, greenhouse tomatoes, are sold to grocery stores in these same areas. Jim and wife, Ann, retired to Florida 3 years ago, where Jim still does buying for Gritt's.

Penny is the "active manager" of Gritt's Midway Greenhouses, overseeing and coordinating all activities, including scheduling and buying. She received her B. S. in Horticulture from Ohio State University in 1983. Operations manager and husband Matt Goff is operations manager, overseeing trucking and physical plant maintenance. He received his B. S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from WVU, worked for Dow Chemical until 2 years ago, when he came with Gritt's. Sales manager is Kevin Irvine, who received his B. S. in Agricultural Education from WVU. Head grower Vincent Grossi has his B. S. in Horticulture from WVU and has grown crops for Oglevee's in PA and Norm White in Chesapeake, VA.

Gritt's Midway Greenhouses now grows poinsettias, Easter lilies, fall mums, tomatoes, peppers (several colors) and spring bedding plants on 6 1/2 acres of greenhouse. When the new greenhouse is built, they will be growing on 8 acres. They have 35 full time employees. They are 80% wholesale and 20% retail. They have their own semi which Jim drove until recently, relinquishing it to a full time driver. With this truck, they take refrigerated food products south from Ohio to a Florida distribution center and pick up foliage on the return trip. This year, for the first time, they will supply the Greenbrier Hotel in White Sulphur Springs with 10,000 poinsettias, sizes 4-10 inch.

Penny enjoys the greenhouse business – she grew up in it. The worst effect of the

present economic situation has been on the tremendous increase in fuel, fertilizer and plastic containers and greenhouse covering. Gritt's has been through hard times before and Penny has confidence in the future. She said, "the best time is in February when we are planting in a nice warm greenhouse!"

Page 2, from upper left clockwise: Gritt's Head Grower Vincent Grossi with some of his poinsettia crop beginning to show color; a Gerbera crop in bloom; 10 feet+ tall tomato plants in production; hive for bees to pollinate tomato flowers; ground

prepared for construction of the new 1 1/2 acre tomato greenhouse (the last of the original property) so that the old 3/4 acre tomato house will now be used to grow colored peppers; dish gardens ready to ship to market; one of the foliage greenhouses with hanging ferns above; a group of Crotons gives a bright spot of color in another foliage house. **Below:** another group of dish gardens; looking across the street to the retail sales - additional production area at Gritt's Midway Greenhouses.



Update January 9, 2009 Connecticut NLA

The Asian Longhorned Beetle brought down the first trees in nearby Worcester this week as officials struggle to contain an infestation there in a 64-square-mile regulated zone, just 30± miles from the Connecticut border. 6,000 trees will be taken down and destroyed first in a two-square-mile area in the city's Greendale district. It could take years to get the beetle under control there. Connecticut plant regulators worry that our state could suffer a similar fate if and when the beetle shows up here.

There'll be few flowers at the new President's inauguration January 20. Toning down the celebration in this tough economy, Barack Obama's inaugural committee informed the Society of American Florists that the traditional team of designers from around the country would not be needed this time.

Connecticut greenhouse growers were quoted in a national AP story on Poinsettias that hit most newspapers on Christmas day. The story went nationwide. It quoted state florists John Tomatore and Bob Buettner as being careful not to raise poinsettia prices so high that consumers were scared off in the down economy. AP writer Stephanie Reitz focused on how high energy prices convinced many greenhouse growers to stop growing the plant, driving up wholesale prices. Grower Earl Kurtz of Cheshire told the AP, "There's no doubt they cost more to grow this year, but if we say 'that's it, we're done', it'll be harder to get back in the game later." Ironically, some Connecticut growers who expected last summer to pay \$4.00 per gallon for fuel oil to grow poinsettias, ended up paying as low as \$1.60/gal. Who knew?

Removing snow and ice from your trucks: the legal issues in Connecticut. The state has no law at present requiring that snow or ice be removed from the top of a vehicle, although the issue seems to come up every year in the state legislature. But when a chunk of snow/ice falls from a truck onto another vehicle, state troopers often issue a ticket for

"failure to secure load". Depending on the amount of damage or injury, it could also be called an *accident*, triggering more summons and lawsuits. You also have to worry about employees getting hurt removing the snow/ice. OSHA says employers must protect staff from falls when they work up high six feet or more.

Connecticut landscapers do 'extreme' landscaping for ABC-TV's Home Makeover Show. Five teams of landscapers provided landscaping, in cold wet weather the second week of December for a new 3,239-square-foot Tudor-style home in Voluntown as part of the popular TV show that gives down-and-out families new homes. The show is expected to air Sunday evening, February 8. The house and landscaping were installed in just one week by hundreds of volunteers for Carol Girard and her four children. Participants included American Landscaping Service, Burnett's Landscaping, Hart's Greenhouse, Hyde Park Landscapes, and Tomis Landscaping.

SUCCESS: Keeping the Best Talent by Linda Talley

linda@lindatalley.com

These days, finding good talent may seem difficult, however, keeping good talent is even more difficult! If you are scrambling to fill desks, you may find that what worked in the past will not work today. You may say that it should be easier due to higher unemployment, however, that doesn't appear to be the case!

Here are the 5 key ideas that I believe an organization, particularly a manager/leader needs to know when trying to keep the best talent.

1. Keep in mind that people don't leave an organization, they usually leave a manager or supervisor and this is usually because the manager is not communicating effectively with the talent. You as the manager might say, "I am saying all the right things" and this may be true but is your body language telling on you? You may be giving Joe an "at-a-boy" but is your body language saying something different?
2. The best talent wants to be a team player but they don't feel like they're

on the team. Are you using your hand in a "hitler" manner to create barriers or are you using your hands to create community and teamwork?

3. Are you establishing meeting rituals? This would be allowing whoever is speaking to be the leader by standing up at the front of the room instead of making their comments from their seat.

4. Do you have "curb appeal"? It's not just for homes anymore! Is what you are wearing consistent with the look you want portrayed for your organization? You are the model and people are looking at what you wear and making judgments based on that.

5. Do you say that we are all in this together, but you stand around with your hands behind your back attempting to separate yourself and be perceived as the leader? Do this only if you are Prince Charles or other royalty! Stand or sit in the power position if you want to acquire followers instead of staff. If you want to keep talent, you must focus on 100% of the communication process rather than using verbal and written communication (7%) and overlooking the non-verbal. If you don't, your body language will always tell on you!

NEW ARTICLE: Do You Want to Be an Influential? Click on Articles on the left side after entering the web site www.lindatalley.com.

Big WV Tree of the Month *Diospyros virginiana* Common Persimmon

<http://hort.ufl.edu/trees/DIOVIRA.pdf>

Edward F. Gilman and Dennis G. Watson²

An excellent small to medium tree, Common Persimmon is an interesting, somewhat irregularly shaped native tree, for possible naturalizing in yards or parks. In May, pistillate and staminate fragrant, yellow, bell-shaped flowers useful in production of honey appear on the trees. Persimmons are dioecious, however, sometimes both male and female flowers appear on the same tree. Leaves are alternate,

simple, and elliptic with serrate margins. Fall color can be a spectacular red or yellow in USDA hardiness zones 4 through 8a. Bark is grey or black and distinctly blocky with orange in the valleys between the blocks, presenting a nice show, especially in winter.

The fruit ripens to an orange color in fall, presenting both humans and wild animals with a wonderful tasty treat. The fruit often hangs on the tree into the winter months, providing a much needed food source for animals such as birds, deer and skunks to name a few. Many people have been discouraged by the astringent fruit prior to ripening, however, the fruit is richly delicious when left to soften until it feels nearly liquid inside the skin (this sometimes happens prior to frost).

Its mature height can be 60 feet, with branches spreading from 20 to 35 feet and a trunk two feet thick, but it is commonly much shorter in landscapes. The trunk typically ascends up through the crown in a curved but very dominant fashion, rarely producing double or multiple leaders. Lateral branches are typically much smaller in diameter than the trunk.

Our WV Big Persimmon is located on the Slack property in South Hills, Charleston. It has a 71 inch circumference (34 inch DBH), a height of 76 feet and an average crown spread of 44 feet. Nominator was K. Marion in 1986. Durr: "6 national champions exist, 5 over 100 feet high, the largest 132 feet by 37 feet".

Common Persimmon is well adapted to cities, but presents a problem there with fruit litter, attracting flies and scavengers, such as opossums and other mammals. In addition to fruit, twigs and foliage cause significant litter. The branches droop as the tree grows, and will require pruning for vehicular or pedestrian clearance beneath the canopy. It should be

grown with a single leader. The thin twigs are brown; gray; and reddish. Common Persimmon prefers moist, well-drained, bottomland or sandy soils but is also very drought and urban-tolerant. Truly an amazing tree in its adaptability to about any site conditions, including alkaline soil, it is seen colonizing old fields as a volunteer tree but grows slowly on dry sites. Its fruit is an edible berry that usually ripens after frost, although some cultivars do not require the frost treatment to ripen. Before ripening, however, the fruit is decidedly astringent and not edible. Most America cultivars require the presence of both male and female trees for proper fruiting.

Except for cleaning up the messy fruit if it falls on a patio or sidewalk, Common Persimmon maintenance is quite easy and it could be planted more. Locate it where the slimy fruit will not fall on sidewalks and cause people to slip and fall. Because transplantation is difficult due to a coarsely-branched root system, Persimmon trees should be balled and burlapped when young or planted from containers. The wood is used for golf club heads (at one time for shovel handles), billiard cues, flooring and veneer and is very hard and almost black.

The variety *pubescens* has fuzzy leaves and twigs.

Common Persimmon grows best in full sun but is often found as an understory tree. It tolerates clay; loam; sand; acidic; alkaline; extended flooding; and well-drained soils. Its drought and salt tolerance is high. I have enjoyed eating about 10-15 persimmon fruit from my young 'Meador' each October for the past 3 years, being careful to pick only those fruits that have become very soft to the point of jelly consistency inside the skin. The taste is somewhat apricot-like but far richer and sweeter.

Plant of the Month

Chaenomeles speciosa

Common Flowering Quince

<http://hort.uconn.edu/Plants/c/chaspe/chaspe1.html>

This spring flowering shrub is native to China and is hardy to zone 5. It is a deciduous multi-stemmed shrub 6' to 10' tall with equal or greater spread, generally exhibiting a rounded outline, but somewhat variable. It is very dense with a tangled jumble of branches and the branches bear unbranched thorns. The summer foliage has an alternate leaf arrangement. The leaves have an ovate to elliptical outline with an acute base and tip. Leaf margins are serrated. Leaves are 1.5" to 3.5" long and about 1" wide. Large, readily noticeable stipules are present at the petiole base. Stipules can be as large as 1" to 1.5" across, are rounded, and have serrate margins. New growth emerges reddish-bronze and matures to a glossy, dark green. Flowering Quince does not have fall color but drops its leaves green.

Flowers are the primary "claim to fame" of this plant which blooms in April, before leaves emerge. The normal color is red, but cultivars range to salmon, pink and white. Normal flowers are single, but some cultivars have double flowers. The flowers are borne on old wood in clusters of 2 to 4. Flowers are about 1.5" in diameter and are quite showy in full bloom.

Fruit is an apple-like fruit 2" to 2.5" long, yellow green in color and not ornamentally showy. It can be used to make preserves if harvested in October. Bark is brownish.

This is an adaptable, easy to grow shrub, which is tolerant of dry soils. Full sun is needed for best ornamental display, although tolerant of partial shade. Periodic rejuvenation pruning can enhance the plants ornamental performance. Avoid high pH soil which will result in chlorosis.

In the landscape, Flowering Quince is useful for early spring flower display, although its single season ornamental appeal should restrict its

(Flowering Quince continued from page 5)

use to more difficult sites. It works well in shrub borders, hedges, as a barrier, and in mass plantings.

Liabilities of Flowering Quince are: apple scab can cause significant defoliation by mid-summer; scale, mites and aphids can be problematic; leaf chlorosis on high pH soils; twigginess and thorns collect leaves and garbage; fireblight; no fall color; flower bud injury in cold winters; single season ornamental appeal; rabbit damage and partial or sporadic fall bloom (not enough to be showy). Propagation is by summer cuttings which root easily. The seed requires cold stratification.

Many cultivars exist, but those listed below are most common. **'Cameo'** - Double, apricot-pink flowers. A low growing selection (4' to 5' tall) with bright green foliage and few thorns. Plant has good clean foliage and appears disease resistant, thus many observers consider the plant superior to other cultivars. **'Contorta'** - This form, with twisted stems and white flowers, is appearing more frequently in the trade. The contorted branches can be showy in the winter landscape. **'Jet Trail'** - A low-growing form (to 3' tall) with pure white blossoms. **'Nivalis'** - A vigorous, upright grower with spiny branches. White, single flowers in April. **'Texas Scarlet'** - A low-growing plant (to 4' tall) with few thorns. Blooms are bright red, considered among the best. The apple-like fruit may also be used for culinary purposes. This cultivar may be a selection or hybrid of *C.*

japonica. **'Toyo-Nishiki'** - An unusual form with red, pink and white flowers in the same flower cluster. Upright, rounded habit with spiny branches (growing 6' to 10' tall). While the flowering habit is unusual and the plant is very hardy, some reports indicate that it may be more prone to fireblight disease.

UCONN IPM:Nursery:Diseases:

Phytophthora Dieback of Rhododendron

<http://www.hort.uconn.edu/IPM/nursery/htms/rhodpyth.htm>

Phytophthora dieback is caused by the fungus *Phytophthora cactorum*. This disease affects rhododendron, azalea, and Japanese andromeda. It was first reported from Maryland in the 1930s. It has been found in the eastern United States and Europe, where it has become increasingly prevalent in the last 15 years. This disease is favored by hot, wet weather. It is usually thought of as a nursery disease. Succulent young growth is much more susceptible than the older leaves. Woody stems are not usually affected. Symptoms. On leaves, round spots appear on new growth. They are water-soaked at first. Then within 3 to 5 days the spots become olive-colored, and then chocolate-brown. The spots are brittle. The leaves curl down toward the stem, but they remain attached to the stem.

If the leaf spots reach the midrib of the leaf as they grow, the fungus will grow into it, and down the petiole until it reaches the stem. On the stem, a diamond shaped canker is formed. This will continue to grow until it completely surrounds the stem. The portion of the stem above the canker then dies, and turns completely brown. On older plants, the fungus may grow down the stem into a healthy leaf, causing a narrow brown band to appear along the midrib. This band will expand in a V-shaped pattern, with the widest portion at the base of the leaf. These leaves usually fall off within 1 to 2 weeks.

Prevention.

It is important to keep leaves dry to prevent this disease.

Avoid overhead watering.

Avoid watering early or late in the day.

Avoid excessive nitrogen fertilizer, especially in mid-summer. Fertilizing at this time causes flushes of susceptible young growth when the weather is favorable for disease development. Prune out diseased branches well below the diseased area.

Covering the bases of container-grown plants with 2-2 1/2" of gravel is effective in keeping the spores of the fungus from splashing from the bases

of the plants onto the leaves and starting infections there.

Avoid planting rhododendrons near lilac, as this fungus causes a lilac disease as well.

There are a few varieties that are tolerant of this disease.

See current recommendations for chemical control measures.

By Pamela S. Mercure, IPM Program Assistant, University of Connecticut

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Comstock Publishing Associates, Ithaca, New York.

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Taxus Scales

by Lee Townsend, Extension Specialist
University of Kentucky College of Agriculture

Mealybugs and Fletcher scale can infest Taxus. While they are distinctly different in several ways, their biologies are similar, as is their management.

Mealybugs are scale-like insects that feed on plant sap and typically are covered with a grainy white secretion that gives them their name. The white covering and long filaments make this mealybug stand out at branch forks where it tends to settle. The sparse yellow foliage of heavily infested plants often is covered with the black growth of sooty mold fungus which is nourished by the honeydew exuded by the mealybugs and scale. These sap-feeding insects spend the winter as nymphs that become active again in the late May. Females produce from June in early summer.

Fletcher scale is a soft scale that infests Taxus and arborvitae. Females are light brown, globular, and about 0.2 inches in diameter. The small yellow crawlers move only a short distance from the female before settling to feed. There is one generation per year. Damage symptoms resemble those for Taxus mealybug.

Alternatives for crawler control

• Cultural control

Scales tend to thrive on stressed plants. Following a recommended fertility program and watering regime will promote plant health. However, over-fertilization favors scale buildup. If practical, improve plant sites to reduce stress and promote growth. Severely prune back heavily infested branches and protect new growth with insecticide applications.

• Insecticidal Sprays

Horticultural oils kill by suffocation or after penetrating over-wintering stages of the insect. Consequently, they may not be effective where several layers of scale coverings have accumulated.

Dormant oils are typically applied during February or March but may not be very effective against armored scales.

Highly refined supreme, superior, or summer oils can be used on many trees and shrubs during the growing season. Read the product label for guidelines on plant sensitivity and temperature restriction before buying and using these products.

Insecticidal soaps are long chain fatty acids that kill susceptible insects through direct contact. Like horticultural oils, they require thorough coverage.

Soaps leave no residue so repeated applications may be needed for some pests. These products may burn the foliage of sensitive plants, such as Japanese maple, so check the label for information about the plant species that you intend to treat.

A variety of natural and synthetic insecticides are labeled for use as sprays to control scale crawlers on landscape trees and shrubs. While the residual life of these products is generally longer than oils and soaps, timing, coverage, and precautions on damage to some plant species are very similar to those for oils and soaps.

Representative products for scale crawler control.

Insecticide common name*Representative brand names

AcephateOrthene Turf, Tree & Ornamental Spray

Ortho Systemic Insect Killer

Azadiractin Bon-Neem

Gordon's Garden Guard Liquid Insecticide

CarbarylSevin

Cyfluthrin Bayer Advanced Garden Multi-Insect Killer Concentrate

Lambda-cyhalothrinSpectracide® Triazicide® Soil & Turf Insect Killer

DimethoateDragon Cygon 2E Systemic Insecticide

EsfenvalerateOrtho Bug-B-Gon Garden & Landscape Insect Killer Concentrate

MalathionOrtho Mosquito-B-Gon Tree & Shrub Spray

Bonide Malathion Insect Control

PermethrinOrtho Mosquito-B-Gon Tree, Shrub & Lawn Spray

Spectracide® Bug Stop® Multi-Purpose Insect Control Concentrate

Bonide Borer-Miner Killer

*All insecticides have unique common names that can be found just below the brand name on the product label. You may be able to find other brand name products for scale control that contain these active ingredients. Be sure that the product you select is labeled for the plants that you intend to spray.

• Systemic insecticides

Imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Garden Tree & Shrub Insect Control Concentrate) is applied as a drench around the root zone of infested plants. This water soluble insecticide is taken up by the roots and transported throughout the plant where it is ingested by sap feeding insects. This provides a means of scale control without reliance on sprays. However, it may need to be applied several weeks before crawlers are active for best results.

Evaluating Control

The success or failure of control efforts may not be readily apparent but here are some things to check.

The following Bylaws have been revised and updated with legal assistance during 2007 and 2008. Please read carefully and note that on page 11, under Meetings, “in August of” is lined out.

BYLAWS OF WEST VIRGINIA NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION, INC.

(A WV NONPROFIT CORPORATION)

AMENDED AND RESTATED 2007

ARTICLE I. Name, Purpose, Management

Section 1. The name of this corporation shall be WEST VIRGINIA NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION, INC., a WV nonprofit corporation.

Section 2. The purposes and objectives of the corporation shall be :

- A. To protect and promote the nursery and landscape industry in West Virginia;
- B. To cultivate acquaintance;
- C. To improve and standardize nursery products;
- D. To compile and disseminate scientific information to members;
- E. To cooperate with all allied interests;
- F. To promote the exchange and sale of nursery stock.

ARTICLE II. Board of Directors

Section 1. The business, property and affairs of this corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors composed of not less than 7 (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer + 3 elected Members) nor more than 8 (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer + 3 elected Members + immediate Past President - provided the immediate Past President is not the present elected President). The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall become Directors of the corporation by occupying those positions, ipso facto, and shall continue to be a Director, each respectively, for so long as he or she continues to hold the office from which his or her Director status derives, and shall cease to be a Director, ipso facto, immediately and automatically upon ceasing to hold the office, without the need for any action of the corporation, its Directors or its members. Any such officer Directors shall not be ex officio Directors, but shall be entitled to one vote on all matters, counted in determining a quorum, and with the same rights and responsibilities as the other Board members.

Section 2. At the first annual meeting of the members, the elected members of the Board of Directors shall be divided into three classes of one elected member each; the elected member of the first class shall hold office for a term of 1 year; the elected member of the second class shall hold office for a term of 2 years; the elected member of the third class shall hold office for a term of 3 years; at every annual meeting thereafter of the members a Director shall be elected by the members for a term of 3 years, or until his or her successor is elected or appointed, to succeed the Director whose term then expires. (W.VA. CODE § 31E-8-807).

Section 3. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors shall be filled by appointment made by the remaining Directors by vote of the majority of the Directors present at a properly called meeting of the Board, and the Director elected to fill such a vacancy shall serve until the next annual

meeting or until his/her successor is elected and assumes his/her duties. (W.VA. CODE § 31E-8-811).

Section 4. The President of the corporation shall preside over the meetings of the Board of Directors and the Secretary of the corporation shall function as the Secretary of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. A regular annual meeting of the Directors shall be held in August of each year, immediately following the meeting of the members, as called by the President, or as soon thereafter as may be.

Section 6. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least quarterly whenever called by the President or by a majority of the Board. Notice of all calls and meetings of the Board of Directors shall be by mailed written notice of the time, place and purpose thereof by the President or Secretary to each Director at least 10 days before the time fixed for the meeting.

Section 7. Any and all Board of Directors may participate in a regular or special meeting by, or conduct the meeting through the use of, any means of communication by which all Directors participating may simultaneously hear each other during the meeting, and any Director participating in a meeting by this means is deemed to be present in person at the meeting. (W.VA. CODE § 31E-8-820).

Section 8. If and when the Directors shall severally or collectively consent in writing to any action to be taken by the corporation, such action shall be as valid corporate action as though it had been authorized at a meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 9. Whenever all the Directors meet such meetings shall be valid for all purposes without call or notice, or waiver of call and notice. No call or notice of any meeting of Directors shall be necessary if waiver or call and notice be signed by all of the Directors.

Section 10. A quorum of the transaction of business at any meeting of the Directors shall consist of a 1/3 (one-third) majority of the Board then in office. (W.VA. CODE § 31E-8-824).

Section 11. The act of a majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors .

Section 12. The Mid-Atlantic Nurserymen's Trade Show Board of Directors shall be elected/appointed by the Directors of this corporation for a staggered three year term, staggering the terms of said directors elected/appointed as in Section 2. above.

ARTICLE III. Officers

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall elect or appoint the officers of the corporation. Such election or appointment shall regularly take place at the annual meeting of the Directors, provided, however, that elections of officers may be held at any other meeting of the Board of Directors. The officers of the corporation shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, who are Active Members of the corporation. Any vacancy in office to be filled, shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. All officers shall be subject to removal at all times by the affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The officers of the corporation shall be elected/appointed every other year and each shall hold office for two years unless he/she shall sooner resign, or shall be removed, or otherwise disqualified to serve. Otherwise, each officer shall hold office until his/her successor shall have been duly elected and qualified.

Section 3. (A) President. The President shall be the chief executive of the corporation; he shall preside at all meetings of the ; shall be ex officio a member (voting member) of all standing or special committees; shall have general charge of the activities of the corporation; shall see that all resolutions of the Board are carried into effect; and, in general, shall perform all duties incident to the office of President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.

(B) Vice-President. The Vice-President shall in the absence or disability of the President perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President, and shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors shall prescribe.

(C) Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and the members in one or more books provided for that purpose; see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws or as required by law; circulate all minutes of the Member meetings and the Board meetings, and get Member and Board approvals thereof, respectively, together with a Newsletter of matters of general interest, to the Members; circulate a list of active Members to the membership annually; be custodian of the corporate records; authenticate records of the corporation; and in general perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and all such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him/her by the President or by the Board of Directors.

(D) Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have the custody of the corporation's funds and shall keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements; shall deposit all moneys and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the corporation in such depositories as may be designated by the Board of Directors; shall disburse the funds of the corporation as may be ordered by the Board, demanding proper vouchers for such disbursements; shall render to the President and Directors at the meetings of the Board, or whenever they may require, an account of all his/her transactions as Treasurer and of the financial condition of the corporation; have the financial records audited as required by the Board of Directors; and this office (Treasurer) may be required to furnish surety bond in the amount determined by the Board, the premium of which shall be paid by the corporation;

Section 4. The Board of Directors may engage the services of such other employees as may from time to time be deemed necessary or advisable for the objects and purposes of the corporation.

ARTICLE V. Committees

The Board of Directors shall appoint such standing or special committees of such size as the Board of Directors may deem necessary to properly carry on the activities and effect the objects and purposes of the corporation, to serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. (W.VA. CODE § 31E-8-825).

ARTICLE VI. Members

Section 1. Any person who is a resident of the State of West Virginia and who grows and/or sells ornamental nursery stock as a registered nursery or nursery dealer, including trees, evergreens, shrubbery and perennials, and has actively engaged in the retail or wholesale business of these products for a period of at least 2 years of which represents a major portion of their economic livelihood (personally or through a business entity), and who bears a reputation in the industry of trustworthy dealings (which must be maintained as a condition of membership), and is interested in carrying forth the purposes of the corporation, may, upon application and acceptance by the Board of Directors, become a Member affiliated and associated with the corporation and each shall be known as an "Active Member" of the association/corporation, and entitled to 1 vote on each matter, each respectively, and may hold an elective office of the association/corporation.

Section 2. Those individuals or business entities who furnish materials or render services to the nursery and landscape business or who are associated with the nursery and landscape business in any business way (e.g., landscape architects, commercial horticulturists, Christmas tree growers, superintendents of parks and estates, technical officials of the Department of Agriculture, state educational institutions, out of state of WV nurserymen) may, upon application and acceptance by the Board of Directors, become affiliated and associated with the corporation and each shall be known as an “Associate Member” of the association/corporation, without voting rights or elective office rights, or Board Member privileges, and sans voting, elective office or Board member rights.

Section 3. A nursery business entity - designating a person to represent it at Member meetings, and other representatives of such nursery business entity, and employees and/or spouse of an Active Member, may, upon application and acceptance by the Board of Directors, be associated with the corporation and each shall be known as an “Affiliate Member” of the association/corporation, sans voting, elective office or Board Member rights.

Section 4. Upon recommendation of the President, following recommendation by a Member in writing, and approval of the Board of Directors, an individual having done outstanding work in the field of horticulture or in the interests of nursery men/women of West Virginia, deemed worthy of the honor by the President and Board of Directors, may, upon Board acceptance, become an “Honorary Member” of the association/corporation, sans voting, elective office or Board Member rights.

Section 5. Upon being sponsored by an Active Member and approved by the Board of Directors, National and Regional businesses with its gross sales of 25% or more in green goods and with maintenance of year round sales facilities for nursery stock, may become an “Allied Member”, each respectively, sans voting, elective office or Board Member rights.

Section 6. Presence in person or by proxy of the Active Members (voting members) representing a majority of the voting rights of this corporation shall constitute a quorum of any meeting of the members. A majority vote of the Active Members present and by proxy entitled to vote shall carry any action proposed or voted on at a members’ meeting.

Section 7. Application for membership in any class (“Active Member”, “Associate member”, “Affiliate Member”, “Allied Member”) with the proper entrance fee shall be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval and upon approval by the Board shall be submitted to the voting membership (Active Members) by regular mail by the Secretary for approval, and upon no objection having been filed with the Secretary by an Active Member within 14 days from date of mailing, the applicant is approved as a member of the class for which application was made; upon an objection having been filed, the membership application must be acted upon by the Active Members.

ARTICLE VII Meetings

Section 1. An annual meeting of the members shall be held ~~in~~ ~~August~~ of each year at a place in West Virginia as called by the President and set (date, time and place) by the Board of Directors, or as soon thereafter as may be. At least 30 days prior to the date fixed by the Board of Directors for the holding of the annual meeting of members, written notice of the time, place and purpose of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary to each member entitled to vote at such meeting; one of the purposes of which shall be the election of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Business meetings and/or special meetings of the members may be called at any time by the President, Board of Directors, or by a 1/3rd of the Active Members. The method of which such meetings may be called is as follows: upon receipt of a specification in writing setting forth the date and object of such proposed special meeting, signed by the President, or by a majority

of the Board of Directors or by a 1/3rd of the Active Members, the Secretary shall prepare, sign and mail the notices requisite to such meeting. At least 60 days prior to the date fixed for the holding of any business meeting of members, and at least 30 days prior to the date fixed for the holding of any special meeting of the members, written notice of the time, place and purpose of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary to each member entitled to vote at such meeting. No business not mentioned in the notice shall be transacted at such meeting.

ARTICLE VII. Amendments

These bylaws may be amended, altered, changed, added to or repealed by the affirmative vote of 2/3rds of the members entitled to vote at any regular or special meeting of the members if notice of the proposed amendment, alteration, change, addition, or repeal be contained in the notice of the meeting.

ARTICLE VIII. Dues

Section 1. The Board of Directors may determine from time to time the amount of entrance fee and annual dues payable to the corporation by members of each class.

Section 2. Entrance fee dues shall accompany each membership application, and, upon acceptance, shall constitute payment of that member's dues for the fiscal year wherein the entrance fee is paid. Dues shall be payable in advance on the 1st day of July in each fiscal year.

Section 3. When any member of any class shall be in default in the payment of dues for a period of one month from the beginning of the fiscal year, his/her membership may thereupon be terminated by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Present entrance fees and dues, subject to Section 1. above, are as follows:

Entrance Fee:

\$ 35.00 Active Member

\$ 25.00 Associate Member and *Allied Member

\$ 5.00 Affiliate Member

\$ 0.00 Honorary Member.

Annual Dues:

\$ 35.00 Active Member

\$ 25.00 Associate Member and *Allied Member

\$ 5.00 Affiliate Member

\$ 0.00 Honorary Member.

* Each store business in WV will be counted as an Allied Member, and each, respectively, will be subject to an entrance fee and dues.

ARTICLE IX. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the corporation shall begin on the first day of July and end on the 30th day of June in each year.

ARTICLE X. Contracts, Checks, Deposits and Funds

Section 1. Contracts. The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents, of the corporation, in addition to the officers so authorized by these bylaws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the corporation, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section 2. Checks, Drafts, etc. All checks, drafts or orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the corporation, shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents, of the corporation and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors. In the absence of the determination by the Board of Directors, such instruments shall be signed by the treasurer.

Section 3. Deposits. All funds of the corporation shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the corporation in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select.

Section 4. Gifts. The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the corporation any contribution, gift, bequest or devise for the general purposes and for any special purposes of the corporation.

These Bylaws of the West Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association , Inc., Amended and Restated 2007, were approved and adopted by 2/3rds of the members entitled to vote at the member meeting of the ___ day of _____, 200__.

Please bring these Bylaws with you to the Business Meeting January 23, 2009, 11:30 AM, along with your comments and suggestions!

Message from WVNLA Vice-President Brett Merritt

For the WVNLA business meeting January 23, 11:30 AM, I would like to suggest that everyone come prepared to discuss goals and objectives for the next two years. I think it would be beneficial if we all came with our suggestions for “concrete”, objectives that we think the WVNLA needs to focus on over the next couple of years. At the meeting we can discuss and agree upon a priority list for these goals. I think this would be beneficial for all of us, especially for Beth, our new Director. This list will help her prioritize her time and attention. The questionnaire below has been prepared for each of the members to get their input on short and long term goals for the WVNLA.

Brett

Questionnaire for WVNLA Members

Please list what you believe should be goals and objectives for the West Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association in the 21st Century. Bring your list to the Business Meeting on January 23, 2009!

Short Term ((next 2 years))_____

Long Term (next 10 years)_____

Live scales should produce a liquid when mashed, dead scales will be dry and not “bleed” when crushed.

New foliage should have a healthier appearance once the scale burden has been removed. Buds should break a little earlier than when the plant was infested and expanded leaves should have normal color and turgor.

Natural Enemies Scale insects can be attacked by a variety of lady beetles, predatory mites, and small parasitic wasps. Lady beetle adults and larvae can be seen but mites and parasitic wasps are very difficult to see. You can conserve natural enemies by using insecticidal soaps and oils which have limited impact on beneficial species in comparison to other control alternatives.

Revised: 3/05

CAUTION! Pesticide recommendations in this publication are registered for use in Kentucky, USA ONLY! The use of some products may not be legal in your state or country. Please check with your local county agent or regulatory official before using any pesticide mentioned in this publication.

Of course, **ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS FOR SAFE USE OF ANY PESTICIDE!**



Diospyros virginia,
Common Persimmon.
From upper left
clockwise: bark; tree,
leaf scar; twig showing
alternate buds and
lenticels; leaves.
Pictures from [http://
hort.ufl.edu/trees/
DIOVIRA.pdf](http://hort.ufl.edu/trees/DIOVIRA.pdf)





Diospyros virginiana, Common Persimmon. from upper left: drawing of shoot, flowers, flower buds, fruit; open fls; fruit; tree heavily laden with fruit. Pictures from <http://hort.ufl.edu/trees/DIOVIRA.pdf>

Bottom pictures: *Chaenomeles speciosa*, Flowering Quince flowers and shrub. Pictures from <http://hort.uconn.edu/Plants/c/chaspe/chaspe1.html>





Chaenomeles speciosa, Flowering Quince. From upper left, clockwise: leaves and large stipules; appearance of shrub in winter; showy flowering shrub; pome-type fruit; C. s. 'Nivalis' with white single flowers. Pictures from <http://hort.uconn.edu/Plants/c/chaspe/chaspe1.html>



WVNLA member Melissa Brodsky, owner of Honey Bee Landscaping, Grafton, showed off her new home at a housewarming on January 10, 2009. Company, food, conversation, and house were great! Long life and happiness in your new home, Melissa!

Virginia Tech Weed Identification Guide

Common Teasel: *Dipsacus fullonum*http://www.ppws.vt.edu/scott/weed_id/dwsi.htm

Weed Description: An erect biennial with small prickles on the stem and distinctive spiny flower heads. Common teasel may reach 6 1/2 feet in height and is primarily a weed of roadsides, pastures, hayfields, and occasionally rosettes can be found in turfgrass. This weed is found throughout the United States except in the northern great plains.



Seedling: Cotyledons are oval to round in shape and occur on short petioles. First true leaves are also oval to round in shape, have rounded or 'scalped' teeth, and have an overall wrinkled appearance.

Leaves: Plants initially produce a basal rosette of leaves and then flowering stems are produced during the second year. Rosette leaves are oval in outline, have a wrinkled appearance, and have margins with rounded or 'scalped' teeth. Leaves that occur on the flowering stems are opposite, without petioles (sessile), and are lanceolate in outline. Leaves that occur on the flowering stems are also 'clasping', with their leaf bases completely surrounding the stem. All leaf midveins have short prickles on them.

Stems: Flowering stems are produced during the second year of growth and are erect and branching near the upper portions of the plant. Stems are angled and also have many small prickles that are turned downward on them.

Flowers: Flowers are egg-shaped in outline but cut off squarely at the base. Flowers are approximately 1 1/4 to 4 inches long and consist of many individual white to lilac flowers that bloom in a circular pattern around the seedhead. Individual flowers are from 10 to 15 mm long and occur on flower stalks (peduncles). Several long, leaf-like bracts also branch out from the base of the flower and curve upward around the head.

Fruit: An achene that is angled and approximately 2 to 3 mm long.

CONTROLLING EXOTIC TEASEL (http://www.invasive.org/dnr.wi.gov/invasives/fact/teasel_com.htm)

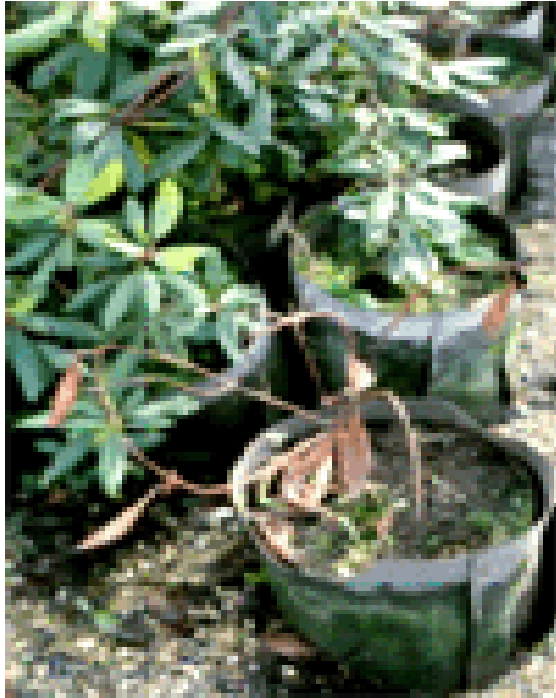
Mechanical Control: Cutting, digging, and burning are recommended as the best solutions for control in natural areas. In small areas, rosettes can be dug up using a dandelion digger. Like dandelions, as much of the root as possible must be removed to prevent resprouting. Cutting with a sharp spade or shovel below the surface of the soil can be helpful, but the area should be checked later for resprouts. As an alternative, the stalks of flowering plants can be cut just before flowering. The plant should not reflower, but instead die at the end of the growing season. Cut flowering stalks should be removed from the natural area if the flowers have opened, because seeds can mature on the stem even after cutting. Cutting the flowering stalk before the full bud stage should be avoided because the plant will usually send up new flowering stalks. Cutting flowering stems may need to be repeated for several years to control teasel. Teasel in nearby areas should also be eliminated to prevent introduction of new seed. Late spring burns can be useful in controlling teasel before it becomes dense. Burning should be employed with other methods to insure

maximum control. Manual removal is assisted by burning the site in the spring so that the basal rosettes are visible amidst the blackened soil and grasses.

Chemical Control: Triclopyr is dicot-specific and can be applied to foliage and stems at 2% active ingredient (a.i.) during the growing season, preferably before the plant has bolted (sent up a flowering stalk)—triclopyr is apparently

(Continued on page)

the more effective of the two. Glyphosate is also effective when applied to foliage and stems at 12-2% a.i. before bolting, although it is non-selective. Herbicide can be applied after bolting, but seed development remains a risk. The rosettes of teasel remain green late into the fall, after most other plants have become dormant—application at this time reduces the risk of harming non-target species. Glyphosate may also be effective during the dormant season, providing the rosettes are photosynthesizing when glyphosate is applied.
Last Revised: September 3, 2004



Dieback of Rhododendron caused by *Phytophthora cinnamomi*.



Root rot of Rhododendron caused by *Phytophthora cactorum*.
Phytophthora pictures from <http://www.hort.uconn.edu/IPM/nursery/htms/rhodpyth.htm>.



Fletcher Scale on Taxus. Note Mealy Bug just below center. Picture from <http://www.ext.vt.edu/.../ornamentals/scaleinsects.html>.



Seen at MANTS 09. At left, the Waverley Farm, Adamstown, MD, booth included left to right, Thuja occidentalis 'George Peabody' Cedrus deodara 'Gold Cone', and Cupressus arizonica 'Blue Ice'. Out of the picture here was also Cryptomeria japonica 'Sekan Sugi' - pyramidal habit, yellow-green new growth.



This large rototiller appears to be able to till as much as 18" deep.



Miniature lighted water bubblers.



This mistblower looks like a creature out of "Jurassic Park".



An eclectic display.

New WVNLA Executive Director brings Experience and Expertise to Job

Beth Loflin is originally from Wheeling. She graduated from WVU with a degree in Landscape Architecture. Her work experience includes : working for the WV Department of Energy where she reviewed and selected Abandoned Mine sites for reclamation, prepared press releases and public meetings regarding mining. She was one of the top 3 design finalists for the WV Memorial. She also designed and coordinated the Master Plan Project that involved the removal of Washington Street at the WV State Capitol Complex; also as Asistant Director, she wrote and implemented policies and procedures for General Service employees. In the past 15 years, she has successfully owned and operated Blooming Designs, a landscape design company in Charleston. She has lived in Charleston since 1984. She has 2 children - Evan, who is attending WVU, Katie, who is a sophomore at George Washington High School. Her husband Brett is employed at Chesapeake Energy.



Dr. Todd West and Horticulture students from WV University at MANTS in Baltimore on Jan 8, 2009. Travel, lodging and meals were made possible in part by a donation from WVNLA.

Below: wheelbarrow display and Bougainvillea Bonzai at MANTS.



Late Reminder! The WVNLA Winter Meeting will be held January 22-23, 2009, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Charleston. Election of Officers will be held at the Business Meeting on January 23! Once again, we will have an excellent slate of educational speakers and Pesticide Application Recertification credits for WVNLA Members. You can still attend! Just come on in the door next Thursday!



Beth Loflin, Charlie Price, Cary Levenson and Becky Morris in front of the WVNLA MANTS booth in Baltimore January 7, 2009. Beth is the new WVNLA Executive Director. Come and meet her at the WVNLA Winter Conference Jan 22-23 in Charleston. More MANTS pictures inside this issue. Read her resume on page 21!

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