A Date to Remember: The Kentucky Nut Growers Association spring meeting will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2012 at the Marion County Extension Office in Lebanon, KY. The address is 415 Fairgrounds Road, Lebanon, KY 40033-1550. Coming in on HWY 55 (From Springfield or Bluegrass Pkwy), take HWY 55 into Lebanon (Do not take the first #2154 at light that will take you West). Immediately after you pass the BP Station and the Masonic Temple on your left is Rd. #2154 (going to 68 East), turn LEFT and take this to the stoplight (HWY 68 or Main St.). Turn right onto HWY 68 go to the next stop light (Light#7) and turn left onto Woodlawn Ave/Fairgrounds Rd. Go 1/2 mile to the Marion County Extension Office building. The meeting will begin at 9:00 am CDT. The luncheon will be potluck and there will be a kitchen available to heat up lunch items. Please bring items for the spring auction! For more information about KNGA contact Dan Ganno at (270) 860-8362 or danganno@yahoo.com.
A Note From the KNGA President

Hi all! Hope everyone’s year is going good for you. I personally can’t complain! As you all know we have had a pretty mild winter and I don’t know how this is going to effect our nut crops this year. Hope it turns out to be a good thing. As I’m sure you all have heard KNGA will be hosting the Northern Nut Growers annual meeting this year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank John Strang for all the hard work he has put into arrangements for this 4 day long meeting in Lexington. Also I’d like to thank Kirk Pomper for all the work he puts into the newsletter and other business he handles for KNGA. While I’m thanking everyone, I’d like to thank all the Officers, Directors, and Committee Members for all they do to help. Please know that your time spent is greatly appreciated!!! Hope to see you at the spring meeting and scion swap in April. If I can be of service to you please feel free to call upon me at anytime. I can’t always answer my phone so please leave a message and I’ll get back to you ASAP.

Good Luck and Good Growing!

Dan Ganno
270-860-8362
danganno@yahoo.com

Third International Pawpaw Conference A Success!

by Kirk Pomper
Principal Investigator of Horticulture
Kentucky State University

There were 112 people who attended the 3rd International Pawpaw Conference on September 9th-10th, 2011, which was held on the KSU campus and the Center for Sustainability of Farms and Families. The Conference was sponsored by the Kentucky State University Land Grant Program, the Ohio Pawpaw Growers Association, and the PawPaw Foundation. Scientists, industry people, and growers traveled from 18 states and from as far away as Canada, The Netherlands, and Romania! This Conference was a unique experience for scientists, nurserymen, entrepreneurs, and enthusiasts to share information about the production and uses of pawpaw. Topics ranged from pawpaw processing, propagating, orchard production, pests, and diseases to how pawpaw was introduced into Romania in 1925. The Conference also featured a “Pawpaw Culinary Extravaganza” featuring pawpaw menu items from chefs, as well as other unique Kentucky cuisine. The dinner included Kentucky freshwater prawn tails with pawpaw cocktail sauce, Kentucky tilapia topped with pawpaw salsa, pork tenderloin with pawpaw barbecue sauce, pawpaw smoothies, pawpaw crème brulee, pawpaw ice cream, and other pawpaw menu items. Recordings of the presentations will soon be available on the KSU Pawpaw Website.
Pawpaw fruit tasting at the 3rd International Pawpaw Conference at Kentucky State University in September 2011.

Dr. Florin Stanica, University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Romania, speaker at the Conference visits Dr. Ilze Sillers pawpaw orchard in Versailles, KY.
NNGA 103 Annual Meeting and Call For Papers

We are rapidly making the final additions for KNGA’s hosting of the NNGA meeting this July 22-25th. We will need a number of KNGA members to help in hosting the many portions of this meeting. Plans are for a tour of the Arboretum nut planting, welcome dinner, show and tell session, two days of technical sessions, group photo, exhibits, auction, banquet, all day CAP tour, short trip to Lovers Leap Vineyards and Winery and the NNGA field trip to the UK Horticultural Research Farm, KSU Demonstration and Research Farm and Buffalo Trace Distillery. It is going to be an action packed few days to feature Kentucky nut growers. Please plan to attend and help out.

Proposals for presentations to be given during the NNGA 103 Annual Meeting technical sessions in Kentucky are being sought by the Program Committee. If you are interested in presenting, or have a recommendation for a potential presenter, please submit the presenter's name, mailing address, email address and telephone number to Shawn Wright.

Phone: 606-666-2438 X-234
Email: shawn.wright@uky.edu

We have 20 to 30 minute time slots available. We ask that all presenters have a digital (preferable) or hard copy of their presentation ready at the meeting for publication in the Annual Report. We are looking for papers covering a wide variety of topics relating to nut trees, including observations from experienced growers. All necessary presentation equipment will be available in the Agricultural Sciences Building North in Seay Auditorium.

Ceremony for an Arboretum in Honor of Jim Durell Planned for April 12th

A ceremony has been tentatively planned for 11 am in Frankfort on April 12th, 2012 to dedicate an arboretum at Juniper Hills Park in Frankfort, Kentucky to Mr. Jim Durell. Jim was active in the KNGA for many years, and KNGA members are welcome to attend. Please contact Kirk Pomper for additional information at 502-597-6174 or kirk.pomper@kysu.edu.

OBITUARIES

Richard Simpson

Richard Simpson of Hustonville died Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2011 at Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center. He was 74. Born in Middleburg on July 16, 1937, he was the son of the late Clifford and Flonnie Elma Wilson Simpson. He was a retired school teacher and a member of Mt. Salem Baptist Church and the Kentucky Nut Growers Association. The Simpson#1 hickory was selected by Mr. Simpson and he was active in the Kentucky Nut Growers Association for many years. Survivors include two sisters, Naomi Simpson and Joyce Simpson, both of Hustonville.
Results for the Fruit and Nut Display at the Kentucky State Fair in 2011

Fruits and Nuts

Class 076 Best Plate Persimmons, Any
1. Charlie Nadorff  BROOKS  KY
2. Charlie Nadorff  BROOKS  KY
3. Teresa Nadorff  BROOKS  KY
4. Matt Nadorff  BROOKS  KY

Class 080 Best Plate Pawpaws, Any Other
1. Linda Bader  LOUISVILLE  KY
2. Steve Kelty  LOUISVILLE  KY
3. Tony Cissell  FERN CREEK  KY
4. Tony Cissell  FERN CREEK  KY

Class 081 Best Plate Pawpaws, Any
1. Jim Busch  LOUISVILLE  KY
2. Kerry Jones  LOUISVILLE  KY
3. Tony Cissell  FERN CREEK  KY
4. Tony Cissell  FERN CREEK  KY

2306 Nut Competition

Class 089 Best Pt Pecans, Any other
1. Ronald Seitz  MT WASHINGTON  KY

Class 094 Best Qt Black Walnuts,
1. Bob O'Flynn  OWENSBORO  KY

Class 095 Best Qt Black Walnuts, any
1. Angela Livers  LOUISVILLE  KY
2. Emily Goins  WADDY  KY

Class 115 Best Qt Shellbark Hickory, any
1. Emily Goins  WADDY  KY

Class 117 Best Pt Shagbark Hickory
1. Matt Nadorff  BROOKS  KY
2. Teresa Nadorff  BROOKS  KY
3. Charlie Nadorff  BROOKS  KY
4. Matt Nadorff  BROOKS  KY

Class 118 Best Qt Shellbark Hickory
1. Charlie Nadorff  BROOKS  KY

Class 122 Best Pt Filberts or Hazelnuts
1. Keith Hancock  EKRON  KY

Class 124 Best Qt Black Walnuts
1. Michael Blackburn  COXS CREEK  KY
2. Bob O'Flynn  OWENSBORO  KY

Class 127 Best Pt Hicans (pecan x
1. Charlie Nadorff  BROOKS  KY
2. Matt Nadorff  BROOKS  KY
3. Teresa Nadorff  BROOKS  KY

Class 128 Best Pt Jar Black Walnut
1. Bob O'Flynn  OWENSBORO  KY
2. Michael Blackburn  COXS CREEK  KY

Class 130A Best of Show - Single plate
1. Ronald Seitz  MT WASHINGTON  KY

Class 131A Nut Sweepstakes
1. Bob O'Flynn  OWENSBORO  KY
About Black’s Pecan Orchard

Finley Aaron Black was born in 1893. Finley’s Father was killed in 1905. Finley Aaron moved to Hickman, Ky in 1912. He married Francis Kesterson in 1913. Back then the pecans were picked up by hand after falling and they also would climb the trees and shake the limbs to shake the remaining pecans out.

Finley leased his first pecan trees in 1912. When the pecans were picked up they were put in a wooden box then scooped into a wagon later to sell. Finley Aaron Black bought his own trees in 1942. He started out with 98 acres. After that he bought 45 more.

Finley and Francis had six children. Their son James Donald Black took over in 1952 with about 145 acres. In 1956 James married Lillie Mae Williams, they had 3 children: Gregory Donald, David Albert and Alice Melinda.

In 1959 James and Lillie Mae leased more trees. Then in 1973 they bought a farm with about 350 pecan trees. They also farmed row crops to make ends meet.

Their son Gregory started helping on the farm at age 12 driving a tractor. In 1976 Gregory married Teresa Gail King.

In 1980 James bought a farm that had pecan trees on it then 2 years later Greg and Teresa bought that farm from his parents. Over the years James and Greg farmed together and took care of the pecan trees together.

Greg and Teresa had 3 children, Felisha Gail, Ashley Le-Anne and Gregory James (Jay).

In 2000 Greg and Teresa decided to branch out and expand the pecan business. Their daughter Ashley started working for them buying, selling, and custom cracking pecans, working out of their shop.

Up until 3 years ago they only had native trees. Greg decided to expand the business, buying 3 more orchards with grafted tame pecan trees, 28 acres, 22 acres, and 14 acres. They also expanded the cracking business buying 8 more crackers.

They also used to climb trees and used a truck with a bumper tree to get the pecans out of the trees. They have expanded buying tree shakers, pecan hustlers (picks up the pecans with a machine), and a tree sprayer.

Today it takes the whole family Greg, Teresa, Felisha, Ashley, Jay, James, and Lillie Mae, plus Teresa’s sister Melissa Somerfield to operate the pecan farm and business.

They have over 3000 pecan trees to this day. They have opened a country store where they bake homemade goodies, flavored pecans, pies, brittle, toffee, tarts, etc. They only sell their own pecans and the best grade pecans. For more information contact Black’s Pecan at 1302 Moscow Ave. Hickman, KY 42050, Telephone: (270) 236-0247 and http://www.blackpecans.com.
Web Links of Interest:

The Kentucky Nut Growers Association Website: http://www.pawpaw.kysu.edu/KNGA.htm

Kentucky State University Pawpaw Website: http://www.pawpaw.kysu.edu.

The University of Kentucky Extension Service Fruit and Nut Cultivar Nursery List for 2007: http://www.uky.edu/Ag/Horticulture/frtnursery07sources.pdf


Shooting Star Nursery (Kentucky): http://www.shootingstarnursery.com or 502-867-7979.


Rhora’s Nut Farm and Nursery: http://www.nuttrees.com or 905-899-3308.

Black's Pecan (Hickman, KY): http://www.blackpecans.com or 270-236-0247.


One Green World/Northwoods Nursery: http://www.onegreenworld.com or 877-353-4028


Burnt Ridge Nursery & Orchards: http://www.burntridgenursery.com or 360-985-2873

Stark Bro.’s Nurseries & Orchards Co: http://www.starkbros.com or 1-800-325-4180.

Northern Nut Growers Association: http://www.icserv.com/nga

The Ohio Nut Growers Association: http://www.onga.org/index.htm

The Indiana Nut Growers Association: http://www.nutgrowers.org

Annual Dues Information

The year listed immediately after your address label indicates the year through which your membership dues are paid. Please note that dates highlighted in pink indicate that your KNGA membership is past due. Please renew your membership. Thanks!

KENTUCKY NUT GROWERS ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
KENTUCKY NUT GROWERS ASSOCIATION

TO:   David Leeper
      2209 Middleground Dr.
      Owensboro, KY  42301

DATE _____________________

□NEW MEMBER       RENEWAL       CHANGE OF ADDRESS

NAME ____________________________________________________________

ST OR RFD ______________________________________________________

CITY _________________________________ STATE _______ ZIP ___________

OCCUPATION __________________________ COUNTY ___________________

AMT. ENCLOSED FOR DUES $_______________ FOR YEAR(S) ________________

Dues are $5.00 for one year. Annual membership begins January 1st. New members joining after July 1st shall be credited as paid in full for the next calendar year.) For additional information about joining KNGA, please contact Mr. David Leeper at (270) 929-2968.