

Northern Nut Growers Association, Inc.



2007 Stakeholders' Report

Mission Statement and Purposes

Revised August 2002

Mission Statement

The Northern Nut Growers Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization of people interested in growing nut trees and minor fruits such as pawpaws and persimmons. We achieve our Purposes by discussions at our annual meetings, through our publications, with our award-winning web site, and through interactions with other nut growing organizations throughout North America and the world.

Purposes

The Purposes of the NNGA shall be to:

1. Promote interest in and disseminate information about nuts, nut bearing trees, and selected minor fruits (such as pawpaws and persimmons) of the temperate zone;
2. Promote scientific research in the breeding and culture of nut bearing trees and selected minor fruits of the temperate zone;
3. Promote the standardization of cultivar names and the development of genetic bases for the establishment of the identity of cultivars of nut bearing trees and selected minor fruits of the temperate zone;
4. Promote the production of nuts and selected minor fruits of the temperate zone for both commercial and home use; and
5. Advance the culture and use of nuts, nut bearing trees, and selected minor fruits of the temperate zone.

President's Report

Annual Meetings

We had a successful 98th Annual Meeting in August at Ottawa, Ontario, with good opportunity for interesting discussion and hearing informative presentations. Many thanks to all those who made it possible. The planning for the 99th Annual Meeting next August at Texas A & M University is progressing well under the leadership of L. J. Grauke. I am personally looking forward to returning to A & M after a short time as a student there 62 years ago.

Website

Thanks to Marsha Henkin, the NNGA website is being much used for obtaining information, for membership and renewal, for buying books and other items, and for registration for annual meetings. There are also many of us who do not use it very much for various reasons. Among those reasons are the slow access of dial-up internet when we are living in areas of low population density and our unfamiliarity with the use of computers and internet procedures. Many of us could benefit from the help and classes offered on these topics by many schools and public libraries. Even we who are “old dogs” can learn new tricks with their help.

Cultivar Inventory Review Committee

In August, I appointed Bryan Dayton and Joe Hietter as co-chairs of the Cultivar Inventory Review Committee for the purpose of looking at the cultivar inventory effort with new perspectives. Please send your response to their survey so that the inventory can proceed according to NNGA goals.

Constitution and By-Laws Review Committee

The amendments proposed last year by the Constitution and By-Laws Review Committee were adopted by NNGA at the 2007 annual meeting. As you all know, the time between the fall busy season and the spring busy season is short so there is limited time for careful consideration of amendment proposals that would encourage long-term NNGA stability and progress. They did well last year and are continuing again this year. Committee members are Sally Martyn (Chair), Ken Bauman, Tom Molnar, Bill Nash, Alan Van Antwerp, and Francis Woodward. Please tell anyone on the committee the changes that you think should be made.

June 2006 *Nutshell* Survey

A survey form was published in *The Nutshell* of June 2006. You might find it interesting to compare your views with those whose responses were given in the President's Report in the *2006 Stakeholder's Report*. (If you want copies of these, please let me know.) NNGA is a membership organization, so every member's views are important. It will benefit NNGA if you tell officers, directors and committees what your views are on any NNGA concerns.

NNGA Endowment and NNGA Research Endowment

The NNGA Endowment was begun in March of 2003, with a commitment to complete its establishment by investing a total of \$10,000 by March of 2008. The board decided, at the Annual Meeting, to complete that endowment with The Foundation for Enhancing Communities, previously called The Greater Harrisburg Foundation. They also decided to fully establish an NNGA Research Endowment by investing \$10,000 of research funds with the Foundation. Having the Research Endowment places

NNGA in a much more favorable position for asking for contributions to enlarge the research endowment to provide dependable funding for nut-related research.

NNGA Volunteers

NNGA can be extremely proud of its many volunteers who make the Association what it is! The elected officers, board members, appointed officers, committee members, and other appointed people are all volunteers who serve without pay and most of them without any reimbursement of expenses. I wish it were reasonably possible to thank everyone adequately for their work, but I'm sure that a great many would be inadvertently overlooked in such an effort. Thank you all!

Alan Van Antwerp
President, 2006 – 2007

Financial Report (Unaudited)

1 October, 2006 – 30 September, 2007

Prepared by Sandra Anagnostakis, Treasurer

Income

Income Source	Actual
Memberships	\$17,083.00
student/disabled	\$280.00
Advertising	\$2,760.32
Book Sales	\$2,600.35
Promotional Items	\$118.00
Misc. (for Endowment)	\$255.00
General Fund MM Interest	\$1,063.80
Total	\$24,060.67
Annual Meeting 2006 returned	\$2,084.37

Expenses

Expenses	Actual
Members Mailings	\$455.22
Student/Disabled Persons Membership	\$25.00
Annual Report (inc. mailing and tax)	\$1,365.00
The Nutshell (inc. mailing and tax)	\$10,444.73
File Maintenance (inc. tax)	\$685.04
Handbook vol. II	0.00
Utilities/Communication	\$431.70
Post Office Box	\$144.00
Web Services (gift)	\$500.00
Office Supplies, photocopying	\$824.55
Officers/Directors Expenses	\$665.00
Labor	0.00
Promotional Items	0.00
Mailing books and Promo Items	\$147.34
Advertising/Promotions	0.00
Equipment	0.00
Insurance (bonding Treasurer)	\$202.00
Bank Fees	\$37.40
PayPal fees	\$148.67

Expenses	Actual
Contingency/reserve (\$500 budgeted)	0.00
Handbook negatives to library	\$40.00
S. Martyn to pay for gift	\$48.00
Total	\$16,163.65
Annual meeting 2007 expenses	\$1,796.38
Research Grants given	\$4073.00

Assets

(30 September 2007)

This is the State of the Money at the end of our Fiscal year. Since then I have taken money from the Life Member's Fund to raise our endowment with the Foundation for Enhancing Communities (in Harrisburg, PA) to the \$10,000 mark so that it will start earning returns. Our Net Worth may look impressive, but our real net worth is in all the members whose tireless work makes NNGA a thriving organization.

Sandra Anagnostakis
Treasurer, NNGA

Asset	Value
PayPal Balance	\$804.86
General Fund Money Market	\$19,763.32
Library Checking Account Balance	\$2,726.88
Endowment	\$4,400.57
Investment value: General Fund	\$71,941.05
Investment value: Life Member's Fund	\$43,868.66
Investment value: Book Fund	\$9,614.82
Investment value: Research Fund	\$184,360.54
Research Fund Money Market Account	\$45,767.89
Net Worth	\$383,248.59

Proposed Budget

1 October, 2007 – 30 September, 2008

Income

Income Source	Budget
Memberships	\$16,000.00
Advertising	\$5,000.00
Book Sales	\$3000.00
Promotional Items	\$100.00
Misc. (for Endowment)	0.00
Total	\$24,100.00
From Investments	\$7,960.00
Total	\$32,060.00

Expenses

Item	Budget
Members Mailings	\$500.00
Student/Disabled Persons Membership	0
Annual Report (inc. mailing and tax)	\$10,000.00
The Nutshell (inc. mailing and tax)	\$10,000.00
File Maintenance (inc. tax)	\$700.00
Handbook vol. II	\$5,000.00
Utilities/Communication	\$500.00
Post Office Box	\$150.00
Web Services (gift)	\$500.00
Office Supplies, photocopying	\$600.00
Officers/Directors Expenses	\$1,000.00
Labor	\$150.00
Promotional Items	\$50.00
Mailing books and Promo Items	\$200.00
Advertising/Promotions	\$500.00
Equipment	0.00
Insurance	\$210.00
Bank Fees	\$150.00
PayPal fees	\$150.00
Accountant, income tax preparation	\$1,200.00
Contingency/reserve (5% for miscellaneous expenses)	\$500.00
Total	\$32,060.00

98th Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Northern Nut Growers Association, Inc.
Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Sunday, 12 August 2006

ATTENDANCE

Board members present:

Alan Van Antwerp, President	Rodney Hart Sally Martyn
Greg Miller, Vice President	Robert Miller Ron Richardson
Tucker Hill, Secretary Sandra Anagnostakis, Treasurer Andre Flys	

Board members absent:

Billie Hanson	Francis Woodward
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Guests:

Ken Bauman	Joe Hietter
Bernard Contre	Bud Luers
Don Cullman	John Martyn
Bryan Dayton	Sandy Miller
Dennis Fulbright	Rose Powell
L.J. Grauke	Jerris Richardson
Jerry Henkin	Bill Sachs
Marsha Henkin	Robert C. Stehli

President Alan Van Antwerp opened the meeting at 9:10 AM and welcomed everyone and emphasized the importance of what NNGA does, the changes that have occurred over time, and the importance of the future of the organization.

Email Business

Alan Van Antwerp passed out a sheet outlining the email business conducted by the board

during the past year. It outlined the Research Grants motion and the grants approved for 2006:

1. Bio-control of Chestnut Gall Wasp- \$5,130
2. Identifying Cold-hardy and Blight Resistant Hazels- \$3,500
3. Propagation of Ozark Chinkapin- \$4,993

It also showed that a motion to send out a renewal reminder to all members and to publish renewal notices in *The Nutshell* was passed. A motion to begin a donation drive was defeated and the Annual Meeting Coordinator, Jerry Lehman, had to temporarily step down due to ill health and was replaced by Jerry Henkin through a board motion until Jerry Lehman is well enough to resume his duties. (See Email Motion Record.)

Treasurer's Report:

Sandra Anagnostakis reported our net worth to be \$389,923.24 as of June 30, 2007. Her reports clearly showed the amounts in the General Fund, the Research Fund—both invested and available, the Life Membership Fund, and the Book Fund. She has been making quarterly reports to the board. She outlined her third quarter report. Sandra praised the increase in book sales and attributed it to the Web site listing. She also said that mailing all members worked very well and most members renewed in the first quarter. She questioned when the Research Grants would be all spent. The Research Fund is earning about 5% at this time. (See Financial Report on page 5.)

Motion:

Moved by Tucker Hill and seconded by Alan Van Antwerp that we hire an accountant for \$1,200 to prepare the annual income tax material.

Carried unanimously.

Endowment Fund

Alan Van Antwerp handed out a copy of his and Tucker Hill's report published in *The Nutshell*, June 2007. Alan and Tucker interviewed the president of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities (TFEC)—formerly the Greater Harrisburg Foundation—in January. Our fund was established in 2003 and needs to be up to \$10,000 by March 2008 to receive income. Income is cumulative until \$10,000 has been deposited. A long discussion followed about the fund, its purpose, and how to increase it to the \$10,000. Dennis Fulbright talked about the benefits Michigan State University gets from endowments and how they could ensure the future of NNGA. Alan suggested the money might come from the Life Membership Fund. There was also discussion about setting up a research endowment fund.

Motion:

Moved by Greg Miller and seconded Ron Richardson, that we transfer \$7,000 from the Life Membership Fund to the NNGA Endowment.

Carried unanimously.

Motion:

Moved by Sally Martyn and seconded by Bob Miller, that we invest \$10,000 from the available research monies into the Endowment Fund to create a fund for NNGA research.

Carried unanimously.

The intent of this fund or sub-fund—type to be determined after consulting with TFEC—is to provide a vehicle for future research donations.

Following the elections on Tuesday evening, a letter needs to be sent to The Foundation

for Enhancing Communities in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, designating the two officers that will get the reports.

Motion:

Moved by Tucker Hill and seconded by Sandy Anagnostakis, that the authorized contacts for The Foundation for Enhancing Communities be the NNGA secretary and treasurer and that the secretary will distribute copies of all reports to the board members.

Carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RELATED ACTION**Meeting Site Committee Report**

Jerry Henkin reported that the 99th annual meeting in 2008 will be in Texas with L.J. Grauke in charge and the 100th annual meeting will be in Indiana with Jerry Lehman in charge. He stated that several other areas are being investigated: Kentucky, Oklahoma, Alabama, Washington, Tennessee, Utah, Hawaii, New Jersey, and Mississippi.

L.J. Grauke asked for directions for best date, location, and style of meeting. (See Report #3)

Sales

Rose Powell reported that all hard cover copies of *The Hazel Tree* are sold and that there are 1,600 soft covers left. There are about 900 copies of *The Guide to Nut Tree Culture* in North America left. If at this meeting someone wants hats, books, etc., they must order them due to Canadian tax laws. She will send them out. Rose also asked for ideas on how to move the soft cover *Hazel Tree* books.

Research Grants Committee Report

Greg Miller reported that there were six requests and that the committee had not finally decided on which to support but had determined the three top ranking ones. Dennis Fulbright reminded us that at least one member of the receiving group needed to be an NNGA member. Greg stated that we committed \$1,623

in 2006, with \$8,433 disbursed since then. It leaves \$5,738 (\$548 from 2005) outstanding.

The top three proposals were:

1. Eastern Filbert Blight Resistant Hazelnut Selections from Russia and Crimea: Investigating Inheritance of Resistance; Thomas J. Molnar, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, \$5,000
2. Development of a Nut Grafting Procedure for Transgenic Micropropagated American Chestnut Shoots; Charles A. Maynard, Linda Poplin-McGuigan, and William A. Powell, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, NY, \$4,908
3. Evolutionary History and Population Genetics of Pecan Populations in the Central United States; Allison J. Miller, St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO, \$5,000

Before the banquet, the committee will decide on their final recommendations.

Motion:

Moved by Ron Richardson and seconded by Rodney Hart that we fund three of the proposals and a fourth one if the committee deems it advisable.

Carried with one vote against.

Board Appointments

Motion:

Moved by Tucker Hill and Seconded by Sandra Anagnostakis that the board appoint the current people for another year to the following positions: Investment Advisory Committee, Membership Director, Librarian, Annual Report and Book Editor, The Nutshell Editor, and Web Master.

Carried unanimously.

Don Cullman asked to be replaced as the Cultivar Inventory Co-ordinator.

Written Reports Submitted

Written reports were handed out by:

Ernie Grimo, chairperson, Auction and Exhibits committee

Don Cullman, chairperson, Cultivar Inventory Coordinator

Jerry Henkin, chairperson, Library committee

Bob Miller, director, Membership

Tucker Hill, secretary, Secretary's Report

(See Section entitled "98th Annual Meeting. Individual and Committee Reports.")

Proposed Projects

Alan explained that Gina Farris, daughter of Cecil Farris was willing to donate up to \$500 annually to honour her father. It was agreed to set up a committee to talk to Gina and to report back to the board with a proposal. Alan appointed Bob Stehli, Sandra Anagnostakis, and Bill Nash (with Greg Miller as an alternate for Bill) to be the committee.

Meeting recessed to email mode at 2:45 PM

Minutes recorded by Sally Martyn

Respectfully submitted,

Tucker Hill, Secretary

It is with deep appreciation that I acknowledge the outstanding work Sally Martyn has performed on my behalf and on behalf of NNGA. Without her careful work, these minutes would not be as complete as they are.

98th Annual Meeting

Individual and Committee Reports

Email Motion Record 2006 – 2007

Last Edited July 31, 2007,
by Alan van Antwerp

1. The Research Grants Motion (Carried August 11):

Greg Miller moved, on August 2, that we fund all three proposals:

1. Bio-control of Chestnut Gall Wasp - \$5,130
2. Identifying Cold-hardy and Blight Resistant Hazels - \$3,500
3. Propagation of Ozark Chinkapin - \$4,993

It was seconded by Bob Miller on August 3.

Tucker Hill later added his vote to make 9 votes in favor without discussion: André Flys, Ron Richardson, Sally Martyn, Alan Van Antwerp, Bill Hanson, Sandy Anagnostakis, Francis Woodward, Bob Miller, and Tucker Hill.

No votes were in opposition. No points of discussion were raised.

Two board members did not vote.

2. Renewal Notice Mailing Motion (Carried September 11):

Sandra Anagnostakis moved, on August 2, that we include the renewal form in *The Nutshell* mailed in October and mail at the end of October a direct mail letter with a return en-

velope to all members who owe dues. It was seconded by Ron Richardson on August 2.

Six votes in favor without discussion: Francis Woodward, Alan Van Antwerp, André Flys, Ron Richardson, Sally Martyn, Bob Miller.

No votes in opposition without discussion. No votes in favor after discussion.

One vote in opposition after discussion: Tucker Hill.

Abstained from voting: Bill Hanson, Sandra Anagnostakis.

Discussion was initiated by Tucker Hill on August 11, so the 14-day discussion period was to end on August 25, with the 7-day voting period ending on September 1, unless someone requested extending discussion.

Extension of discussion was requested by Tucker Hill on August 21, so the 14-day discussion period ended on September 4, with the 7-day voting period ending on September 11.

Two board members did not vote.

3. Donation Drive Motion: (Failed October 2.)

André Flys moved, on August 1, that a donation drive be started to make up for the yearly shortfall in general funds, and further that if the shortfall has not been replenished by donations to the general fund within a one year period that member dues be raised accordingly. It was seconded by Sandra Anagnostakis on August 2.

Six votes in opposition during or after discussion: Francis Woodward, Tucker Hill, Bob Miller, Sandra Anagnostakis, Alan Van Antwerp, Greg Miller.

One vote in favor before discussion: Sally Martyn.

Abstained from voting: Bill Hanson.

The discussion period ended on September 25 and the 7-day voting period ended on October 2.

Three board members did not vote.

4. Annual Meeting Coordinator Replacement Motion: (Carried December 2)

Francis Woodward moved, on November 25, that we appoint Jerry Henkin as Annual Meeting Coordinator for the 2007 meeting. Sally Martyn moved, on November 25, that we appoint Jerry Henkin to be the annual meeting co-ordinator till Jerry Lehman is recovered sufficiently to fulfill the job. This was interpreted to be equivalent to a motion and a second.

Six votes in favor without discussion: Greg Miller, Sally Martyn, Francis Woodward, Bill Hanson. Alan Van Antwerp, Bob Miller.

No votes in opposition.

The 14-day discussion period would have ended December 9, but the 6th vote in favor was received late on December 1.

Five board members had not voted.

Annual Meeting Site Committee Report

For 2008, LJ Grauke will select a site in Texas for the 99th NNGA meeting.

For 2009, our 100th NNGA meeting, Jerry Lehman is setting up our Centennial Program in Indiana.

For 2010, John and Lisa Brittain in Kentucky may be in charge of arranging the meeting. If this is not doable, Bryan Dayton from Utah offered to host our 101st annual meeting.

Future possible sites include Wisconsin, Minnesota, Oklahoma, the state of Washington, and a southern state.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Henkin,
Temporary Committee Chair
August 2007

Auction and Exhibits Committee Report

In late winter of 2007, a letter was sent to approximately 140 exhibits and auction prospects, encouraging them to participate in our annual meeting at Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Of those contacted, twenty-eight donors provided items for the auction. The many items provided by our donors ranged from trees to nuts, books, ceramics and others too many to mention. Ken Bauman, our capable auctioneer, raised \$2,039 for us this year.

The money raised from our auction will go to our research fund. The interest from this fund will go to support research projects. As our research fund grows, it will perpetually seed more research in nut growing. We will be funding three research projects this year as a result of available interest money and donations.

About ten exhibitors provided displays of products and nut related items. This is an area where greater participation is needed.

I would like to thank our auctioneer, Ken Bauman, who made this event an enjoyable experience. I would also like to thank our helpers and committee members John and Sally Martyn, Gladys and Tucker Hill, Linda Grimo, Sandra Anagnostakis, and others who volunteered to make our auction a success.

Finally, I would like to recognize, in first

word alphabetical order, the individuals and organizations that provided the items for our auction and made it a moneymaker for our research fund.

André Flys, Schomberg, ON
Bernard Contre, Joliette, QC
Bob and Sandy Miller, Pleasantville, IA
Bud Leurs, Belleville, OH
CAP, Sally Martyn, Sparta, ON
Crystal Gimbel, Bag-A-Nut Corporation,
Jacksonville, FL
Diane Black, New Mexico Soap Co,
Chaparral, NM
Don Cullman, Marysville, OH
Ernie Grimo, Grimo Nut Nursery, Niagara-
on-the-Lake, ON
Forestry Suppliers, Inc., Jackson, MS
Gary Fernald, Monmouth, IL
Gladys Hill, Etters, PA
Host Committee, c/o Marilyn Fraser-
Cunliffe, Mississauga, ON
Janice S. Limbacher, Adrian, MI
Jerry Goertz, Sunnybrook Farm Estate
Winery Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON
Joe Hietter, Pataskala, OH
John Flys, Nobleton, ON
Linda Grimo, Niagara Falls, ON
Lou Riklik, Guelph, ON
Marilynda Fraser-Cunliffe, Mississauga,
ON
Neil Thomas, Mallorytown, ON
Ron and Jerris Richardson, Missouri Valley,
IA
Rose Powell, Palmyra, MI

Sally Martyn, Sparta, ON
Strewn Winery, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON
Susie Rae and Tracey Rae, Ontario
Tucker Hill, Etters, PA
Zel Allen, Granada Hills, CA

Sincerely,

Ernie Grimo, Chairperson
Auction and Exhibits Committee

2006 – 2007 Cultivar Inventory Report

The positives of this report lies in the past efforts and accomplishments of the past years' efforts recorded in our annual. I am disappointed to say that this year's report is quite negative. The persons who are involved with fulfilling the job descriptions outlined have failed to do so, to put it kindly. The rank-and-file of our membership has responded well to the requests made by the program and to the limited progress accomplished.

Our failure to complete the Web site and proceed with the data input supplied by members has stagnated the whole process. This state of affairs will destroy the vision and worthiness of this much needed and wanted program. As the present coordinator, I recommend that the Board do whatever is necessary to revive and complete the Cultivar Inventory Program.

Sincerely,

Don Cullman, Coordinator
Cultivar Inventory Committees

To: Northern Nut Growers Association

Re: Request for a Research Grant from the Northern Nut Growers Board

This is a request for a monetary grant to be determined by the NNGA Board for evaluating the worthiness and effectiveness of the Cultivar Inventory Program if completed. An investment of funds for personnel who are qualified to research this program would be money well spent.

Don Cullman, Coordinator
Cultivar Inventory Committees

NNGA Library Report

July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

This year I completed 48 orders for copies of articles from *NNGA Annual Reports*, *The Nutshell*, or library texts. Two of the orders came from NAFEX members. There were also purchases of past and present *NNGA Annual Reports* to libraries in the United States, Germany, and New Zealand. Several copies of the *NNGA Annual Report Index* were mailed out free of charge to NNGA members; this resulted in additional orders for copies of articles.

There has been one donation this year of old copies of *Annual Reports*, *Nutshells*, and nut growing books from an NNGA member.

New titles that have been acquired by the library are:

1. *Pruning Kentish Cobnuts*, The Kentish Cobnut Association, 28 pages, 2001
2. *Nutshell Guide to Growing Hazelnuts*, Clive Simms, Orchard House Books, 36 pages, 2006

Nut growers from Canada, United States, Sweden, Ghana, Niger, Israel, New Guinea, Argentina, Uruguay, and England have written to the NNGA Library for information. When I could not answer their questions or meet their needs, I wrote to other NNGA members for help.

While in Lisbon, Portugal, this past month, I distributed copies of *The Nutshell* and the *NNGA Annual Report* to nut and fruit tree technical experts working for Agrobio, a government agency for organic growers. Portugal grows walnuts, almonds, hazelnuts, and chestnuts; plantations of cork oak (*Quercus sauber*) are located throughout the country. The staff members of Agrobio requested an exchange of professional magazines.

The current balance of the NNGA Library account with Apple Bank is \$2,695.80, as of the last statement, July 3, 2007. This is an increase of \$336.45 from last year.

Jerry Henkin,
NNGA Librarian

Membership Committee Report

For the past year we had the following special memberships: seventy Family Memberships, four new Life Membership, three new Gold Life Memberships, fourteen Sustaining Memberships, eight Contributing Memberships, nine Student Membership gifts, three members with Disability Membership gifts, and forty-four research donations with a dollar total of \$3,120.

Eighteen members used the \$5 membership discount to renew their membership for three years. The discounted memberships decreased the work of accounting for membership renew-

als and decreased the number of deposits required of the Treasurer.

Our goal is to increase all of the above areas through improved customer service.

This year, I sent out personal letters to all members. This gave members a last chance to send in their dues using the renewal notice in the March *Nutshell* or use the enclosed form. This year we had 127 memberships sent in for the early renewal drawing. In retrospect, last year, I thought we had two things that contributed to the large number of renewal notices. One, the NNGA members had a hard time reading the number on the address label. This has been corrected. The 2005 and the 2006 looked almost alike on the label. Some read the 2006 as 2005 and sent in another renewal, and others waited until I sent them the renewal letter. Two, with our membership year changing from October to January, we did not get the membership trained to send their dues in on time.

I think we have room for improvement. How we can do this is open for discussion.

Some of the items we looked at last meeting.

1. Changing the starting date of our membership year. (Currently we accept new members for a next year membership starting October 1 of the pervious year.) We started giving new members a 2007 membership after the annual meeting. I think this can work well in showing the new members they are special. We want them to be long time members.
2. Continuation of the three year membership discount. (This should be continued)
3. Continuation of early member drawing. (Discussion- Currently using January 1 as cut off date.)
4. Reviewing the life membership list to delete unneeded mailings to deceased nut growers and life memberships to companies. (Discussion- review policy for Life Memberships. Mailings to

wives of deceased Life Members?) This is an ongoing job. I need all of your help on this one.

5. Updating membership lists before all mailings—both snail mail and e-mail.
6. Sharing data lists so we can keep on top of any lost data or omitted information on the membership.

Last year, I did not send out renewal notices by e-mail. Next year, I plan to be able to have membership records up-to-date so an email notice can be sent out before a final post card or letter is sent out to delinquent members. This year's response from the personal letter was well received.

I do want to thank our NNGA Treasurer, Sandra Anagnostakis, for promptly sending me copies of member renewals. I would also like to thank Terree Goldstein for providing me a copy of the membership list to check against my list.

I had a nice letter from member, Bud Luers, two years ago. He said the membership committee needs a welcoming committee in juxtaposition to the registration personnel. New members to be recognized by officers and current members with a very cordial welcome. At this year's NNGA Annual Meeting, the New Member Host Committee led by Sally Martyn will go a long way to address Bud's comments.

Bud also felt that the member that brought in the most new memberships be recognized on a plaque and recognized at the NNGA Banquet. (At least 50 members) Good idea!

I would like to close by saying that additional direction for the Membership Director is welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Miller, Membership Director

98th Business Meeting Minutes

Northern Nut Growers Association, Inc.
Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Monday, 13 August 2006

President Alan Van Antwerp called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

Minutes of Annual Meeting 2006

Motion:

Moved by Sandra Anagnostakis and seconded by John Martyn that the minutes as printed in the *2006 Stakeholders' Report* be approved.

Carried

Proposed Constitution and Bylaws Amendments

Sally Martyn presented the changes as printed in the March *Nutshell*. They are to align the constitution and bylaws with actual practices of the Association.

Motion:

Moved by Sally Martyn and seconded by Sandra Anagnostakis that we approve the proposed changes as printed in *The Nutshell*.

Carried

The Secretary's Report

Tucker Hill circulated his financial report with a total expenditure of \$2,025.26. As this is his final year as secretary, he explained that the computer and associated equipment purchased for him in 2002 would need to be dealt with.

Motion:

Moved by Sandra Anagnostakis and seconded by Greg Miller, that Tucker be given the computer and associated equipment to keep as it is too old to be of much value.

Carried

Treasurer's Report

Sandra Anagnostakis had large charts for all to see that showed our net worth to be

\$389,923.24. Our income was \$24,483.75, and our expenses were \$18,490.84 in our past fiscal year. We are in good financial shape. The Research Fund has \$166,122.75 invested and \$44,069.47 available in a money market account.

Meeting Site Committee Report

Jerry Henkin reported that the 99th annual meeting of the NNGA in 2008 will be in Texas with L.J. Grauke in charge, and the 100th annual meeting of the NNGA in 2009 will be in Indiana with Jerry Lehman in charge.

Auction and Exhibits

The auction will be in the Minto Centre at 7:00 PM, Monday evening.

Cultivar Inventory Coordinator

Don Cullman, who has been frustrated with the lack of results, resigned. Bryan Dayton will consider the position and will later speak to the group seeking guidance.

Nominating Committee Report

John Martyn, chairperson, reported on behalf of the Nominating Committee. Nominations are as follows:

President	Alan VanAntwerp
Vice-President	Greg Miller
Secretary	Tom Molnar
Treasurer	Sandra Anagnostakis
Director until 2010	Bob Stehli

John opened for nominations from the floor for director and any other position. Jerry Henkin nominated Sam Fleet for director. Sam declined the nomination. Alan VanAntwerp nominated André Flys for director. Andre accepted. The

slate will continue open for nominations and will be voted on at the banquet.

Two members of the nominating committee needed to be elected at this session so that the committee can get to work during this annual meeting. John Martyn nominated Bill Nash. Bob Miller nominated Don Cullman. André Flys nominated Mario Mandujano. All accepted.

Motion:

Moved by Tucker Hill, seconded by Rodney Hart, that nominations for the nominations committee be closed.

Carried

An election followed. Bill Nash and Don Cullman were elected to the nominating committee for three-year terms.

Audit

John Flys and Ken Bauman audited the treasurer’s books and found them to be in excellent shape.

The meeting was recessed *sine die*.

Meeting Reconvened at the Banquet Tuesday, 14 August 2007

President Alan Van Antwerp reopened the business meeting.

Linda Grimo thanked Marilynda Fraser-Cunliffe for stepping in and doing such a good job setting up the 98th annual meeting. Marilynda was given two gifts of appreciation: an etching of the Rideau Canal and an Inukshuk wind chime.

Research Grants

Greg Miller presented the committees recommendations for the grants for this year.

Eastern Filbert Blight Resistance:
Tom Molnar \$5,000

Developing Nut Grafting in Chestnuts:
Chuck Maynard \$4,908

Evolutionary History of Pecans: Dr. Alison Miller \$5,000

Cultivar Inventory Co-ordinator

Bryan Dayton and Joe Hietter have been appointed to review this position and the sub-committees and suggest improvements. The president will appoint a coordinator via email.

Nominations

John Martyn ran the election of officers. He reported on the nominations from the committee for all officer positions. He opened the floor for further nominations but none were forthcoming.

Motion:

Moved by Ken Bauman, seconded by André Grimo, that nominations for officers be closed.

John then announced the nominations to date for director with two to be elected and then opened the floor for further nominations.

Motion:

Moved by Don Cullman, seconded by Ernie Grimo, that nominations be closed.

The slate of officers and directors elected by acclamation are:

President	Alan VanAntwerp
Vice-President	Greg Miller
Secretary	Tom Molnar
Treasurer	Sandra Anagnostakis
Directors until 2010	André Flys Bob Stehli

Roster of States and Provinces

Alan read the roster of those attending.

Tucker Hill’s Retirement as Secretary

Greg Miller, Ken Bauman, Alan VanAntwerp, and Sally Martyn thanked and praised Tucker for all his work as secretary of the NNGA for the past 17 years. He has made a great difference in how well the organization functions. He received a set of four handmade coffee mugs.

CONSTITUTION OF THE NORTHERN NUT GROWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

As amended 1 August, 2005 and 13 August, 2007

NAME

Article 1. The name of the corporation is **the Northern Nut Growers Association, Incorporated**, hereinafter referred to as the “Association.” The Association is incorporated as a non-profit corporation under the provisions of the District of Columbia Non-Profit Corporation Act.

PURPOSES

Article 2. The purposes of the Association shall be to promote interest in the nut bearing plants; scientific research in their breeding and culture; standardization of cultivar names; the dissemination of information concerning the above and such other purposes as may advance the culture of nut bearing plants, particularly in the North Temperate Zone.

MEMBERS

Article 3. Membership in the Association shall be open to all persons interested in supporting the purposes of the Association. Classes of members are as follows: Individual members, Family members, Contributing members, Sustaining members, Life members, and Honorary members. Applications for membership in the Association shall be presented to the Secretary, the Treasurer, or the Membership Director, accompanied by the required dues.

ELECTED OFFICERS

Article 4. The elected officers of this Association shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Article 5. The Board of Directors shall consist of eleven members of the Association: the four elected officers of the Association, the preceding elected president of the Association, and six members elected at large. If the preceding elected president is unable to serve, her or his elected predecessor shall serve on the Board of Directors.

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Article 6. The Editor of the *Annual Report of the Northern Nut Growers Association*, the Editor of *The Nutshell*, the Membership Director, the Librarian, the Cultivar Inventory Coordinator, the Sales Coordinator and the Annual Meeting Coordinator (when needed) shall be appointees.

PROVISIONS FOR NON-PROFIT INCORPORATION

Article 7. Said Association is organized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code which is defined as associations organized for charitable, religious, educational and/or scientific purposes, including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

NON-COMPENSATION

Article 8. No part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, members of the Board of Directors, officers, or other private persons, except that the Association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the Association shall be carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Association shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any provision of this document, the Association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

DISSOLUTION

Article 9. Upon the dissolution of the Association, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code or shall be distributed to the federal government or to a state or local government for public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the Association is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Article 10. This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present at any annual meeting, notice of such amendment having been read at the previous annual meeting, or copy of the proposed amendments having been mailed by the Secretary, or by any member to each member thirty days before the date of the annual meeting.

BY-LAWS OF THE NORTHERN NUT GROWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

As amended 1 August, 2005 and 13 August, 2007

SECTION 1. MEMBERSHIP.

Article 1. Individual Member. The Individual member shall be any person interested in the purposes of the Northern Nut Growers Association who pays annual dues. The Individual member shall be a full voting member of the Association and receive a copy of the Association's annual report and newsletter. Annual dues for the Individual member shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Article 2. Family Members. Family members shall be any two members of a household who are interested in the purposes of the Northern Nut Growers Association and who pay annual dues. Both Family members shall be full voting members of the Association. A single copy of the Association's annual report and newsletter shall be sent to Family members. Annual dues for Family membership shall be determined by the Board of Directors and shall be no less than \$5.00 more than the annual dues of the Individual member.

Article 3. Contributing Member. The Contributing member shall be any person interested in the purposes of the Northern Nut Growers Association and who wishes to provide additional financial support to further the activities of the Association. The Contributing member shall be a full voting member of the Association and receive a copy of the Association's annual report and newsletter. Annual dues for Contributing membership shall be determined by the Board of Directors and shall be not less than \$10.00 more than the annual dues of the Individual member.

Article 4. Sustaining Member. The Sustaining member shall be any person interested in the purposes of the Northern Nut Growers Association and who wishes to provide additional financial support to further the activities of the Association. The Sustaining member shall be a full voting member of the Association and receive a copy of the Association's annual report and newsletter. Annual dues for Sustaining membership shall be determined by the Board of Directors and shall be not less than \$20.00 more than the annual dues of the Individual member.

Article 5. Life Member. The Life member shall be any person interested in the purposes of the Northern Nut Growers Association and who purchases a lifetime membership in the Association. Life members may purchase at the basic, bronze, silver or gold level and may upgrade to a higher level at any time they choose to financially assist the association. After purchasing lifetime membership, the Life member shall pay no annual dues. The cost of lifetime membership shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The Life member shall be a full voting member of the Association and receive a copy of the Association's annual report and newsletter.

Article 6. Honorary Member. The Association may elect any person an Honorary member in recognition of their achievements and contributions to the Association. The Honorary members shall be a full voting member of the Association and receive a copy of the Association's annual report and newsletter. The Honorary member shall pay no annual dues.

SECTION 2. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

Article 1. President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and Board of Directors, and may call meetings of the Board of Directors when he or she believes it to be in the best interests of the Association. The President shall appoint a recorder for the Director's and Annual Meetings. The President shall appoint the standing committees, except the Nominating committee and the Awards Committee; such special committees as the Association may authorize, and the Editor of *The Nutshell*. The President shall keep the Vice President fully informed of her or his activities so that the Vice President could assume the duties of the President if necessary.

The President shall investigate the status of any possibly inactive officer, director, or appointed position and shall report the findings to the Board of Directors for consideration of agreement on any positions found to be apparently vacant. He or she shall appoint members to temporarily fill the vacancies when deemed advisable and reasonably possible, and shall report the officer and director vacancies to the chair of the Nominating Committee so they can present candidates for the next election.

Article 2. Vice President. The Vice President shall do all in her or his power to gain as much knowledge of the Association as possible and to prepare herself or himself for the presidency. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President.

Article 3. Secretary. The Secretary shall be the active executive officer of the Association. He or she shall conduct the correspondence relating to the Association's interests, assist in obtaining memberships, actively forward the interests of the Association, report her or his yearly Association activities at Annual Meeting and provide special reports to the meetings of the Board of Directors as they may request.

Article 4. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and record memberships, receive and account for all moneys of the Association, and shall pay all bills approved by the President or the Secretary. He or she shall give such security as the Board of Directors may require or may legally be required, shall invest life memberships or other funds as the Board of Directors may direct--subject to the legal restrictions and in accordance with the law, and shall submit a verified account of receipts and disbursements to the Annual Meeting and such current accounts as the Board of Directors may from time to time require. Before the final business session of the Annual Meeting of the Association, the accounts of the Treasurer shall be submitted for examination to the Auditing committee.

SECTION 3. DUTIES OF DIRECTORS.

Article 1. Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall manage the affairs of the association during and between meetings. One member of the Board of Directors shall be responsible for coordinating solicitation of donations. One member of the Board of Directors shall head a committee to advise the Treasurer on investment of the Association's funds. For a Board of Directors meeting, four members, including at least two elected officers, shall be considered a quorum.

SECTION 4. DUTIES OF APPOINTEES.

Article 1. Committee Chairpersons. Each Committee Chairperson shall generate an annual report presenting the committee's goals and objectives and a summary of the committee's achievements. Said report to be submitted to the Secretary who will secure its publication for the membership.

Article 2. Cultivar Inventory Chairpersons. Each Cultivar Inventory Chairperson shall develop and maintain a database of cultivar information for the assigned species or genus. An up-to-date copy of the database will be provided to the Cultivar Inventory Coordinator at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting.

Article 3. Cultivar Inventory Coordinator. The Cultivar Inventory Coordinator shall maintain a master copy of all Cultivar Inventory data generated by the Cultivar Inventory Committees and make it available at each Annual Meeting or as the Association may direct.

Article 4. Editor of the *Annual Report of the N. N. G. A.* The Editor of the *Annual Report* shall edit and publish a report each year for the educational benefit of members of the Association. The Editor shall solicit, collect, and edit manuscripts concerning the culture of nut crops for publication in the *Annual Report*. The Editor will consider all papers presented at the Annual Meeting for inclusion in the *Annual Report*.

Article 5. Editor of *The Nutshell*. The Editor of *The Nutshell*, the Association's newsletter, shall edit and publish such educational information as will further the purposes of the Association. The editor of *The Nutshell* shall edit and publish news of the Association and business of the Association as an *Annual Stakeholders Report*. The Board of Directors shall approve the frequency of publication of the newsletter.

Article 6. Librarian. The Librarian shall acquire, preserve, organize, and distribute informational material deemed either of historic or of practical value to the Association, including backup copies of minutes, policies, and other documents that are important to the continuity of the Association.

Article 7. Membership Director. The Membership Director shall assist the Treasurer and the Secretary in matters related to services to members.

Article 8. Sales Coordinator. The Sales Coordinator shall assist the Treasurer in matters related to sales of NNGA books and other items.

Article 9. Annual Meeting Coordinator. The Annual Meeting Coordinator shall oversee the development of each annual meeting.

Article 10. Diligence of Appointees. Appointees shall be diligent in performing their respective duties and should make every effort to be available to the Board of Directors at meetings. Any appointee who finds herself or himself unable to perform her or his duties shall promptly notify the President.

SECTION 5. ELECTIONS.

Article 1. Terms. The Officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting and hold office for one year beginning immediately following the close of the Annual Meeting. The at-large members of the Board of Directors shall hold office for three years beginning immediately following the close of the Annual Meeting at which each is elected. The Association shall elect two at-large members to the Board of Directors annually one of which will be placed in nomination by the Nominating Committee and one will be placed in nomination by the membership at large.

Article 2. Nominations. The Nominating committee consists of six members elected by the Association. Each member of the Nominating Committee shall serve a three-year term. The Association shall elect two new members to the committee each year to replace retiring members. At the first session of the Business Meeting each year nominations for these members will come from the floor. The election of the new members of the Nominating committee will take place at the conclusion of this first session of the Business Meeting.

The Nominating committee shall also present a slate of officers and one director at the first session of the Business Meeting. The election of officers and directors shall take place at the closing session of the Business Meeting at the Banquet. Nominations for any office may be presented from the floor at the time the slate is presented at the first session of the Business Meeting or immediately preceding the election at the Banquet. The slate shall be submitted to the Editor of *The Nutshell* by 1 May for inclusion in the June issue.

Article 3. A quorum at a regularly called Annual Meeting shall be fifteen members and must include at least two of the elected officers.

Article 4. All classes of members whose dues are paid shall be eligible to vote and hold office.

SECTION 6. FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

Article 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Association shall extend from 1 October through the following 30 September. All annual memberships shall begin 1 January.

Article 2. Delinquent Members. The names of all members whose dues have not been paid by 1 January shall be dropped from the rolls of the Association. Notices of non-payment of dues shall be mailed to delinquent members on or about 1 March by the Membership Director.

Article 3. Benefits. The *Annual Report of the N.N.G.A.* and *The Nutshell* shall be sent to only those members who have paid their dues for the current year. Members whose dues have not been paid by 1 April shall be considered delinquent and will not be entitled to receive the Association publications or other benefits of the Association until dues are paid.

Article 4. Life Membership Funds. Life membership contributions at the basic level will be placed in the investment fund. All additional Life Membership funds above the basic level will be placed in the general fund of the Association.

SECTION 7. MEETINGS.

Article 1. Annual Meeting. The Association shall hold an annual meeting for the educational benefit of its members and for the purpose of conducting the business of the Association. The Annual Meeting shall be open to the general public and attendance by non-members shall be encouraged.

Article 2. Meeting Site Committee. The location and date for the Annual Meeting shall be chosen by the Board of Directors upon advisement by the Meeting Site Committee. Meeting locations and dates should be determined no less than three years in advance.

SECTION 8. PUBLICATIONS.

Article 1. Annual Report and The Nutshell. The Association shall publish an *Annual Report* each fiscal year, a periodic newsletter called *The Nutshell*, and such other publications as may be authorized by the Board of Directors.

Article 2. Responsibility. All NNGA publications shall be the responsibility of the Publications committee.

SECTION 9. AWARDS.

Article 1. Merit and Service. The Association may provide suitable awards for outstanding contributions to the cultivation of nut-bearing plants, suitable recognition for meritorious exhibits, and suitable recognition for service to the Association as may be appropriate. The Awards committee shall be composed of the five most recent past presidents, the most recent one to serve as chairperson.

Article 2. Honorary Members. The Awards Committee shall recommend members for Honorary membership and shall also recommend members for the highest honorary membership, Dean of the NNGA. These recommendations should be voted-on by the membership at the annual meeting.

Article 3. Big Nut. The Big Nut is to be perpetuated by the current Big Nut whose honor and sole privilege it is to crown her or his successor at the Annual Banquet. The Big Nut reigns for one year and may be seen wearing the Big Nut crown and necklace at any Annual Meeting event but in particular at the Annual Banquet. Should the Big Nut die in office, the previous Big Nut will name a second successor.

SECTION 10. COMMITTEES.

Article 1. Standing Committees. As soon as practical after the Annual Meeting of the Association, the President shall appoint the following standing committees: Auction and Exhibits, Auditing, Evaluation of Research Proposals, Investment Advisory, Local Arrangements, Meeting Site, Meeting Speakers, New Member Host, and Publications. The President shall also appoint a Cultivar Inventory Committee for each genus or species of nut bearing plant that the Association may direct.

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