

Northern Nut Growers Association, Inc.



2008 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

The 99th Annual Meeting in August, at the College Station Hilton Hotel near Texas A & M University, was a good opportunity to hear interesting presentations and to have some interesting discussions. L. J. Grauke and Tommy Thompson, and those who worked with them did an excellent job!

The 100th Annual Meeting at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, July 19 – 23, 2009, is shaping up to be a meeting that will be a fitting celebration of 100 years of NNGA. *The Nutshell*, September 2008, has an excellent informative article by Jerry Lehman and Jim McKenna that gives the information necessary for planning to attend.

An Unexpected Benefit of the Texas Meeting

It was personally satisfying for me to return to Texas A & M 62 years after leaving there at the end of my U. S. Army assignment as a student there in 1946. Even that experience was outshone the following week when three of us who were Army buddies at that time were able to be together in California and reminisce about “the old days” just a month before the death of the California buddy.

NNGA Endowment and NNGA Research Endowment

Investment in the NNGA Endowment with The Foundation for Enhancing Communities was begun in 2003 and completed in 2008 at the minimum \$10,000 level, which allows adding to it as the opportunity arises. The Foundation has governmental and operational security and investment systems that cushion wild market fluctuations somewhat and protect from possible misjudgment or dishonesty of investment personnel. The NNGA Research Endowment was similarly established in 2008 with investment of \$10,000 of NNGA research funds. We are now in a much more favorable position to ask for contributions to enlarge the secure NNGA Research Endowment for the purpose of providing dependable funding for nut-related research. The challenge now is developing these endowments for meeting NNGA goals for the future.

Three Years Flew By!

It is hard for me to believe that three years have flown by since my election as president in 2005. The board chose then to act by Email between meetings instead of delegating their duties to an executive committee. They are extremely busy people, but have accomplished the necessary business in spite of that. Thank you to all who have served in those three years.

A New Team of Leaders

An excellent team of president and vice president, Greg Miller and Dennis Fulbright, were elected at the Texas meeting. It will be interesting to watch, and be ready to help, them accomplish the actions that NNGA needs this year and as long as they serve. Greg has served as president before, and his experience will certainly benefit NNGA as he leads us through changing times. We will all need to serve more often and longer to keep our association operating at the level we want.

NNGA Volunteers are Indispensable

All of our elected officers, directors, appointed officers, committee members, and other appointed people are volunteers who serve without pay and mostly without any reimbursement of expenses. I

am grateful for and proud of every volunteer. We do not have money enough to pay for even a small part of the time and effort they provide for the benefit of NNGA. Thanks to each and every NNGA volunteer!

Alan Van Antwerp
President, 2007 – 2008

Financial Report (Unaudited)

1 October, 2007 – 30 September, 2008

Prepared by Sandra Anagnostakis, Treasurer

Income

Income	Actual
Memberships	\$9,935.00
Donations for student/disabled members	\$250.00
Advertising	\$1,492.00
Book Sales	\$1,628.00
Promotional Items (hats, jackets)	\$296.00
Misc. (for Endowment)	\$100.00
General Fund Money Market Interest	\$444.78
Total	\$14,145.78
Annual Meeting 2007 returned	0.00
Annual Meeting 2008 returned	0.00

Expenses

Expenses	Actual
Mail	\$835.96
Student/Disabled Persons Membership	\$25.00
Annual Report (inc. mailing and tax)	\$2,002.11
The Nutshell (inc. mailing and tax)	\$9,785.21
File Maintenance (inc. tax)	\$548.97
Handbook vol. II	0.00
Utilities/Communication	0.00
Post Office Box	\$168.00
Register Web Domain Name	\$199.90
Web Services (gift)	\$500.00
Office Supplies, photocopying	\$35.40
Officers Annual Meeting Expenses	0.00
Labor	0.00
Promotional Items (hats, jackets)	\$300.00
Mailing books and Promo Items	\$304.20
Advertising/Promotions	0.00
Equipment	0.00
Insurance (bonding of treasurer)	\$202.00

Expenses		Actual
PayPal fees		\$119.37
Accountant, income tax preparation		\$3,000.00
miscellaneous expenses: book refund		\$5.00
	Total	\$18,031.12
Annual Meeting 2007	lunches	\$244.75
	registration refund	\$671.00
	registration refund	\$176.04
Annual Meeting 2008	mail	\$330.24
	meeting facility charge	\$6,058.29
Annual Meeting Expenses	Total	\$7,480.32

Research Grant Expenditures

1 October, 2007 – 30 September, 2008

Recipient	Amount*
University of Missouri (Warmund)	\$548
SUNY (Maynard)	\$4,172
Rutgers University (Molnar)	\$4,250
University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Pabst)	\$2,975
St. Louis University (Miller)	\$4,250
Notre Dame University (Hoban)	\$7,395
University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Pabst)	\$525
University of Kentucky (Rieske-Kinney)	\$770
	Total
	\$24,885
(transfer to Research Endowment, Harrisburg, PA)	(\$10,000.00)

*All expenditures were made from the Research Fund Money Market Account

Assets

(30 September 2008)

Asset	2007	2008
General Endowment, Harrisburg, PA (includes \$450.29 interest, and \$154.57 fees)	(Nov. deposit \$5,605) \$4,400.57	\$7,030.17
Research Endowment, Harrisburg, PA (includes \$45.38 interest, and \$11.25 fees)	(Mar. deposit \$10,000)	\$9,020.72
Library Checking Account Balance	\$2,726.88	\$2,508.58
PayPal Balance	\$804.86	\$518.68
General Fund Money Market Account (includes \$444.78 interest)	\$19,763.32	\$8,853.04
Investment value: General Fund	\$71,941.05	\$58,103.31
Investment value: Life Member's Fund	\$43,868.66	\$35,342.17
Investment value: Book Fund	\$9,614.82	\$7,759.81
Investment value: Research Fund	\$184,360.54	\$148,540.69
Research Fund Money Market Account (includes \$477.60 interest, \$208.00 donations, and \$1,909.00 Annual Auction proceeds)	\$45,767.89	\$26,317.61
TOTAL ASSETS	\$383,248.59	\$303,994.78

Items Sold

1 October, 2007 – 30 September, 2008

Rose Powell, Sales Coordinator

Item	Sold	On hand**
Summer cap	1	13
Winter Cap	2	10
Aussie Hat *	3	43
Centennial Cap	7	17
Women's Cap	5	7
Flap-back Cap*	3	3
Jacket	2	per request
Softcover Hazel*	46	1,615
Hardcover Hazel	sold out Aug.07	none
Guide Vol. 1*	38	873

* indicates one item of each not returned from Texas meeting.

** As of 30 September, 2008.

Notes on the Treasurer's Report for 2007 – 2008

The State of the Money is not bad, considering the economy! No, we haven't LOST any money. We still have all the pieces of paper saying that we own certain investments. None of the companies have gone out of business and since we didn't SELL any of our investments, they are all still there. Their values are less than they were last year, but the values will certainly go up again as the economy recovers (yes, I'm a glass-half-full kind of person). In the coming year, I will not sell any of the investments, and will continue to let dividends from the General Fund investments be reinvested. I will be putting the dividends from the Research Fund Investments into the Research Fund Money Market Account to increase the cash available for grants.

I am showing you our finances in three tables. First a list of our assets with last year's numbers included for comparison, second an accounting of the Research Grants given (which money comes from the Research Fund Money Market account), and third a breakdown of income and expenses for the General Fund. There are several things about this report that I'll call to your attention. I have reported the charge for maintaining our records of memberships and members profiles separately from the expenses for printing and mailing 'The Nutshell' since those records are also used to mail the Annual Report and are occasionally required for other mailings. Our list keeper, Terree Goldstein, is a professional mailer and manages all of our publication mailings. The cash funds for Research and for the General Operating Budget are kept separate, with separate check books, and that makes my bookkeeping much easier. Also reported separately are the Library Funds (which Librarian Jerry Henkin maintains in New York) and the accounts for the Annual Meetings

(maintained by the Local Arrangement Chairs). There are often meeting expenses that must be met prior to the Annual Meeting, and if there has not been enough money accumulated from registrations I send a check from the General Fund. If there is money remaining after the meeting books are closed by the host, the "left over" money goes into the General Fund.

When people buy things (memberships, hats, books) through our web site, PayPal handles the credit card transaction. They keep a percentage of every transaction and I can move the balance to our Money Market funds with a click of a computer key. I usually leave a small balance, so that they won't feel compelled to raise our rates (probably pure paranoia). Our Investments and Money Market accounts are with Edward Jones, and they charge us no fees for maintenance. Our Endowments are with The Foundation for Enhancing Communities in Harrisburg, PA and they charge us a maintenance fee of 1.35% of the value.

Some of the line items in the third table are zero in this report, but have been left in so that members will be aware of them. There were no expenses reported for the Officers to attend the Annual Meeting in 2008, but our By Laws say that they may ask for reimbursement. There were no expenses for Labor, Communications, or Equipment in this fiscal year, but when Karey Molnar takes over the work on 'The Nutshell' she will need to purchase some equipment and will have monthly DSL (computer line) charges.

Lastly, we really have to start recruiting new members! New people are finding us on our web page on the internet. People can join or buy hats or books on their computers using their credit cards, and this convenience has definitely attracted folks who might not have joined otherwise. My personal favorite was someone who logged on and joined (I think he also bought a book) last New Year's Eve near midnight. I hope he sees this and knows how much that entertained me! In spite of the increase in numbers of members from the web page, we have lost about 50 members a year

99th Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Northern Nut Growers Association, Inc.
Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
Sunday, 10 August 2008

ATTENDANCE

Board members present:

Alan Van Antwerp, President	Sally Martyn Robert Miller
Greg Miller, Vice President	
Tom Molnar, Secretary	

Board members absent:

Billie Hanson	Robert Stehli
Andre Flys	Francis Woodward
Ron Richardson	

Guests:

Dennis Fulbright	Jerry Lehman
Jerry Henkin	Bud Luers
Marsha Henkin	Sandy Miller
Tucker Hill	Charles Spurgeon
David Johnson	Bill Sachs

President Alan Van Antwerp opened the meeting at 10:10 am, 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.

Board Minutes from 98th Annual Meeting

All agreed with the minutes printed in the *2007 Stakeholders' Report* (pg. 8-10). Alan Van Antwerp declared them approved as printed.

Email Business

Alan Van Antwerp passed out a sheet outlin-

ing the email business conducted by the board during the past year. It outlined the three actions taken during the year: Cultivar Inventory Questionnaire Expenses; appointment of Bryan Dayton as the Cultivar Inventory Coordinator and Rose Powell as Sales Coordinator; and software package proposed by Bill Sachs and Karey Molnar's appointment to succeed Bill Sachs as Editor of *The Nutshell* in 2010. All three carried. Alan Van Antwerp declared them approved as printed.

Secretaries' Reports

Tucker Hill submitted his final expense report for last year's annual meeting (\$1,041.49) and Tom Molnar submitted his expense report for the year, not including this year's annual meeting (\$442.03). They were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Sandra Anagnostakis sent three copies of the third quarter income and expenses, which were looked over but no action was taken. Procedural changes were discussed concerning the auditing of finances and how to make sure that in the future all finances are well protected. Jerry Lehman offered to sit-in on the auditing committee as he has access to the Edward Jones account. Best Practices for non-profit organizations are found on several state web sites and in our library.

Endowment Fund

Alan Van Antwerp reported that there is now \$10,000 in the original Endowment Fund and also that a new Research Endowment Fund of \$10,000 has been opened this year. Tom Molnar will put a brief summary of these in the *Stakeholders' Report*.

Reports and Related Action

Meeting Site Committee Report

Jerry Henkin reported that the 2009 Annual Meeting will be in Indiana with Jerry Lehman taking the lead role in coordinating the meeting. It was discussed that in 2010, the meeting will likely be held in Washington with the Ray and Carol Young in charge. In 2011 the meeting will be in Kentucky, 2012 in Georgia as a combined meeting with NAFEX and in 2013 possibly in Utah. It was agreed that the annual meeting coordinator must make sure certain elements of our meetings occur at each meeting.

Research Investments Report

Jerry Lehman reported that whatever dividends are produced, they should be used for research each year regardless of the value of the investments. He also suggested that the board adopt a method of determining the research funds available to the grants committee and take it out of the funds and put it in a cash account each September so it is there when needed. This year there is \$20,000 for the grants committee.

Jerry Lehman proposed that the board approve the method to determine an annual research amount available as follows: Annually on September 30 or nearest working day, seven percent (7%) of each mutual fund wherein the research fund is invested be sold and the proceeds placed in the American Funds Cash Management fund. This amount is then declared to be available for research. The amount actually sold may be adjusted downward by the treasurer depending on cash remaining unused or unallocated from previous years. The percentage amount may be reduced if the Investment Advisory Committee so believes it is in the best interest of maintaining a sound investment level.

Motion:

Moved by Alan Van Antwerp and seconded by Greg Miller that the proposal presented by

Jerry Lehman be adopted for this year.

Carried unanimously.

Research Grants Committee Report

Greg Miller reported that there were two proposals submitted on DNA fingerprinting. Dennis Fulbright submitted a request for chestnuts and Sean Hoban a request for butternuts, heartnuts and their hybrids. The committee had some concerns with the lack of details in the first submission. Some discussion resulted in whether a student should include the cost of travelling to the annual meeting to report on the research in the grant request. It was agreed that this should not be included in the grant, but there is a separate grant for students to attend annual meetings to give reports.

Motion:

Moved by Greg Miller and seconded by Alan Van Antwerp that we fund both proposals for a total of \$18,007 pending the resolution of the concerns of the grant committee.

Carried unanimously.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Annual Meeting Coordinator

The board approved Jerry Lehman as coordinator for 2009.

Investment Advisory Committee

It was agreed by consensus to reappoint Jerry Lehman, Ron Richardson and Francis Woodward to the Investment Advisory Committee.

Cultivar Inventory Coordinator

A Cultivar Inventory Coordinator will be appointed by email discussion.

Membership Director

Robert Miller was reappointed by consensus. He reported that there are 208 family memberships. A discussion followed about records of

membership for each year. It was felt that there should be physical records kept in the library and/or with the membership director. Bob will work on this.

Librarian

Jerry Henkin was reappointed by consensus. Jerry submitted a written report outlining the number of donations, loans and new books in the library and noting that the current balance of the NNGA Library bank account with Apple Bank for Savings is \$2,526.58

Motion:

Moved by Alan Van Antwerp and seconded by Greg Miller that the librarian be authorized to donate material that does not fit in the NNGA library to other libraries.

Carried unanimously.

***Nutshell* and Annual Report Editors**

Bill Sachs, *Nutshell* Editor, and Dennis Fulbright, *Annual Report* Editor were reappointed by consensus. Dennis reported that the 2005 report is at the printers but he is still waiting on material for both the 2006 and 2007 reports. He hopes to have them finished by June 2009.

Webmaster

Marsha Henkin volunteered to continue in this position.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

The Cecil Ferris Award

The committee had several ideas presented in email form. A discussion followed and it was agreed that it should be a sponsorship or travel award. The committee are asked to work out the details.

Determining content of the *Nutshell* and website

It was agreed that the editor should determine the content of *The Nutshell* and that the

secretary should be the content consultant for the website and the webmaster the technical editor.

Proposed Merger of *Nutshell* and Annual Reports

The publications committee circulated ideas which were discussed. It was agreed to proceed with this merger and that the publications committee should do a mock up to show the board.

Awards Committee

As no awards have been made for three years and with presidents serving longer it was agreed that the constitution and bylaws committee should consider the make up of this committee.

Meeting recessed to email mode at 1:27 PM

Minutes recorded by Sally Martyn

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Molnar, Secretary

99th Annual Meeting

Individual and Committee Reports

Email Motion Record 2007 – 2008

by Alan van Antwerp

1. Cultivar Inventory Questionnaire Expenses: (Moved Nov. 6; Carried Nov. 13, 2007.)

Sandy Anagnostakis moved on November 6, 2007, seconded by Sally Martyn, to authorize the expenses of duplicating and mailing the developed Cultivar Inventory questionnaire and envelopes.

The 14-day discussion period would have ended November 20 and the 7-day voting period would have ended November 27.

7 votes in favor without discussion:
Bob Miller, Alan Van Antwerp, Ron Richardson, Bill Hanson, Tom Molnar, Sally Martyn, Francis Woodward

0 votes opposed.

4 had not voted by November 13.

2. Coordinator Appointment: (Moved Dec.3; Carried Dec. 8, 2007.)

Sally Martyn moved on December 3, 2007, seconded by Sandy Anagnostakis, to appoint Bryan Dayton as the Cultivar Inventory Coordinator and Rose Powell as Sales Coordinator for the coming year.

The 14-day discussion period would have ended December 17 and the 7-day voting period would have ended December 24.

7 votes in favor without discussion: Sandy

Anagnostakis, Alan Van Antwerp, Bill Hanson, Sally Martyn, Francis Woodward, Tom Molnar, Bob Miller

0 votes opposed.

4 had not voted by December 10.

3. Editor of *The Nutshell* Expenditure and Appointment: (Moved July 4, Carried July 5, 2008)

Alan Van Antwerp moved on July 4, 2008, seconded by Sandy Anagnostakis, that expenditure for the software package proposed by Bill Sachs on July 2 be approved and that Karey Molnar be appointed to succeed Bill Sachs as Editor of *The Nutshell*.

The 14-day discussion period would have ended July 18 and the 7-day voting period would have ended July 25.

9 votes in favor without discussion: Alan Van Antwerp, Sandy Anagnostakis, Greg Miller, Bill Hanson, Bob Miller, Sally Martyn, Francis Woodward, Ron Richardson, André Flys

0 votes opposed.

2 had not voted by July 7.

Auction and Exhibits Committee Report

In late winter 2008, a letter was sent to approximately 130 exhibit and auction prospects, encouraging them to participate by providing a display free of charge for our Exhibit room and to also provide items for auction for our annual meeting at Hilton College Station, Texas. Of those contacted, nineteen donors, a smaller number than usual, provided items for the auction. The many items provided by our donors ranged from trees to nuts, books, ceramics and others items too many to mention. Tucker Hill, our volunteer auctioneer, raised \$1,909 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 two 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, Tucker Hill, who stepped in and made this event an enjoyable experience. I would also like to thank our helpers and committee members L.J. Grauke, John and Sally Martyn, Gladys Hill, Linda Grimo, Chris Cunliffe, Leah and Alan VanAntwerp, 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 money maker for our research fund.

Annie Black, Hidden Springs Nursery,
Cookeville, TN

Bill Totten, Alexis, IL

Bob & Sandy Miller, Pleasantville, IA

Calvin Kania, Kania Industries,
Nanaimo, BC

CAP, Sally Martyn, Sparta, ON

Crystal Gimbel, Bag-A-Nut
Corporation, Jacksonville, FL

Diane Black, New Mexico Soap Co,
Chaparral, NM

Ernie Grimo, Grimo Nut Nursery,
Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON

Forestry Suppliers, Inc., Jackson, MS

Gary Fernald, Monmouth, IL

Joe Heitter, Paraskala, OH

Lois Davies, Alliquippa, PA

John & André Flys, Nobleton, ON

Marilynda Fraser-Cunliffe, Mississauga,
ON

Robert Wallace, Chestnut Hill Nursery,
Alachua, FL

Sally Martyn, Sparta, ON

Stuewe & Sons, Inc., Corvallis, OR

Wilson Farms, Arrey, NM

Zel Allen, Granada Hills, CA

Sincerely,

Ernie Grimo, Chairperson
Auction and Exhibits Committee

2007 – 2008 Cultivar Inventory Report

At the 2007 NNGA conference, discussion was held as to the future of the Cultivar Inventory. Bryan Dayton and Joe Hietter volunteered to go forward with the project, and

they gathered information from those previously involved. A large amount of work had previously been done, but it appeared that accumulating grower data was the bottleneck of the project. In November 2007 Bryan and Joe recommended to the board that an inventory questionnaire be sent to members in a mailer. This was quickly approved by the board.

By January 2008, a mailer was sent to the NNGA membership and an electronic copy was put on an email site by Marsha Henkin, the NNGA webmaster. Inventory information and reminders were published in the spring and summer Nutshell. About 140 members responded to the questionnaire (20% of NNGA membership). By August 2008, the data received were entered into the database by Bryan, Joe and other volunteers. Joe reported progress to the NNGA members and the Board at the annual conference in Texas in August 2008. Changes to the database fields are currently being made by Jim Stegmen, program developer, so that useful information not previously on the database can be added. The cultivar inventory database is scheduled to be put online by January 2009.

Bryan Dayton and
Joe Hietter

NNGA Library Report

July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

The current balance of the NNGA Library bank account with Apple Bank for Savings is \$2,526.58. Last year's balance at this time was \$2,695.80, a decrease of \$168.82 from last year.

There was one donation to the Library of \$50.00, but no additional donations of *Annual Reports*, *Nutshells*, or books.

I sold several *Annual Reports* at New York Nut Growers Meetings.

New titles acquired by the library are:

1. Practical Woody Plant Propagation for Nursery Growers, Bruce Macdonald
2. The Hazel Tree, Cecil Farris (2 copies)

I filled a total of 23 orders for NNGA members and three for non-members. Several of these involved research into the Annual Reports and The American Nut Journal. A packet of NNGA Library materials was sent to a library in Pakistan as a token of good will. There were no requests from NAFEX members.

There were numerous e-mails that came through Tufts University's Comfood list-serve involving sustainable agriculture, CSA's, and hunger issues to which I responded.

For the coming year, I would like to coordinate more closely with Project Gutenberg, and plan additional sales of stored *Annual Reports* through state organizations.

Jerry Henkin,
NNGA Librarian

NNGA Research Grant Report 2008

The research grant committee received two grant proposals this year. Both were deemed worthy of funding and adequate funds are available for them.

“Genetic Evaluation of Cultivars of Butternut, Heartnut, and Buartnut” by Sean Hoban and Jeanne Romero-Severson, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN; grant amount: \$8,700. The authors are using DNA fingerprinting techniques to distinguish 29 heartnut, 26 butternut, and 11 buartnut cultivars. Their goal is to collect samples of each cultivar from 5 different sources to verify cultivar authenticity. The characteristics of DNA fingerprints can be used to elucidate the species purity and ancestry as well as how closely cultivars are related to each other. It turns out that some trees previously thought to be pure species are, in fact, hybrids, and some trees thought to be F₁ hybrids, are, in fact, backcrosses to one or the other parent species. Being able to verify cultivar authenticity and ancestry is of great value for evaluating performance and for future breeding.

“Development of Genetic Markers for Use in Pollination Studies and Identification of Commercial Chestnut Cultivars” by Dennis Fulbright, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI; grant amount: \$10,000 (over 2 years). This research will also use DNA fingerprinting techniques. In this case, the techniques will be used to distinguish several commercial chestnut cultivars. In addition to cultivar ID, the techniques will be used to determine the proportion of chestnuts pollinized by each cultivar in a multi-cultivar orchard – a sort of chestnut paternity test. Pollination studies will also use microscopy to determine timing of pollen shed and stigmatic receptivity.

Once again, we are funding cutting edge research by well-known researchers at major universities. And, as usual, the NNGA monetary contribution is only a small portion of the

actual cost of this research. Thanks to those who have contributed to the research fund and thanks to the researchers who are able to work for the benefit of the NNGA.

Greg Miller

Secretary’s Report (Tucker Hill)

To: Sandra Anagnostakis, Treasurer
 From: Tucker Hill, Secretary (retired)
 Re: Secretary’s final expenses for
 12 August, 2007 to 15 August,
 2008
 Date: 5 August, 2008

Cash on hand 15 August 2008 \$ 0.00

Expense Account Expenditures

Item	Quantity	Expenditure
None	n/a	\$ 0.00

Total Expense Account Expenditures .. \$ 0.00

Cash on hand 15 August 2007 \$ 0.00

VISA Expenditures, 2007 Annual Meeting

Item	Expenditure
Auto Rental	\$ 277.88
Fuel	\$ 100.56
Room and Board	\$ 440.00
Registration, Barbeque, Banquet and Tour	\$ 155.00
Meals on the Road	\$ 68.05

Total VISA Expenditures \$ 1,041.49

Total Expenditures \$ 1,041.49

Secretary's Report

(Tom Molnar)

To: Sandra Anagnostakis, Treasurer
From: Tom Molnar, Secretary
Re: Secretary's expenses for 1 July,
2007 to 31 July, 2008
Date: 10 August, 2008

Expense Account Expenditures

Item	Quantity	Expenditure
DSL	10 months @ \$42.95 ea	\$ 429.50
Letters	12	\$ 5.04
Packages	2	\$ 2.50
Printer paper	1 pkg	\$ 4.99
Calls*	0	\$ 0.00

Total Expense Account

Expenditures..... **\$ 442.03**

*covered by abundant extra minutes in personal cell phone plan.

Total Expenditures..... \$ 442.03

NOTES:

99th Business Meeting Minutes

Northern Nut Growers Association, Inc.
Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
Monday, 11 August 2008

President Alan Van Antwerp called the meeting to order at 8:33 AM. He called on John Martyn to present the Nominating Committee report.

Nominating Committee Report

John Martyn reported on the proposed nominations from the committee for all officers and a director. He opened the floor for further nominations. Jerry Henkin nominated Sam Fleet for director.

The slate of officers and directors nominated are:

President	Greg Miller
Vice-President	Dennis Fulbright
Secretary	Tom Molnar
Treasurer	Sandra Anagnostakis
Directors until 2011	Robert Miller Sam Fleet

The election will continue at the banquet.

Nominating Committee

Alan Van Antwerp asked for nominations for the two positions vacant on the nominating committee.

Motion:

Moved by David Johnson and seconded by Rodney Hart that John Martyn and Gary Coley be asked to serve on the nominating committee for the next three years.

Carried.

The meeting was recessed until Tuesday.

Meeting Reconvened on Tuesday, 12 August 2008 at 3:36 PM

President Alan Van Antwerp reconvened the meeting to order at 3:36 pm. Alan passed out a

written agenda for today's meeting, as well as copies of the minutes from last year's meeting (98th Business Meeting minutes) and proposed amendments to the bylaws to be discussed today.

Members present

Carl Aichholz	Jerry Lehman
Stan Barnes	Art Liebenritt
Allan Beck	Bud Luers
Gary Coley	John Martyn
Hill Craddock	Maurice Mathews
Gary Fernald	Greg Miller
Sam Fleet	Robert Miller
John Flys	Thomas Molnar
Dennis Fulbright	Leo Rau
Grant Glatt	Bill Sachs
Jerry Henkin	Charles Spurgeon
Joe Hietter	Mick Terry
Tucker Hill	Alan Van Antwerp
Sean Hoban	Richard Wilson
David Johnson	

2007 NNGA Stakeholders report

Alan asked the group if there were any corrections to be made to the 2007 NNGA Stakeholders Report (already published). Besides David Johnson pointing out that the correct date should read August 2007, not August 2006 as printed on the document, no additional corrections were suggested. Therefore, the 2007 Stakeholder report stands approved as corrected.

Proposed amendments to the NNGA Bylaws

Alan Van Antwerp presented the suggested changes to the bylaws, as printed in the March

2008 *Nutshell*, and recommended by the NNGA Constitution and Bylaws Review Committee.

Motion:

Moved by David Johnson and seconded by Jerry Henkin that we approve the changes as printed in *The Nutshell*. Carried (all in favour, none oppose, no discussion)

Secretary Report

Tom Molnar discussed his Secretary expenditures for the previous year (\$442.03) and those of Tucker Hill (\$1,041.49). Copies of their Secretary Reports were made available to those in attendance at the business meeting and will be published in the Stakeholders' report.

Endowment Fund

Tom Molnar discussed the recently established NNGA endowment funds set up with the investment firm, Foundation for Enhancing Communities. The two funds are the NNGA Endowment Fund and the NNGA Research Endowment Fund, each initiated at \$10,000 in 2008. These funds are ready to take donations.

Treasurer's Report

Sandy Anagnostakis was not present at the meeting this year. Her report will be made available in the 2008 Stakeholders' Report.

Meeting Site Committee Report

Jerry Lehman reported the 100th meeting will be held in Indiana at Purdue University. The committee is already set up, but Jerry welcomes ideas on the meeting. Jim McKenna (Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University) will help will arrangements for the 2009 meeting. The 2010 meeting will likely be held in Washington State in connection with a chestnut growers meeting in that region. The 2011 meeting is slated to be held in Frankfort, KY in cooperation with the KYNGA. The 2012 meeting is slated to be held in the east (Georgia) as a joint meeting with NAFEX. More information about the 2009 meeting will be published in the September 2008 *Nutshell*.

Auction and Exhibits Committee Report

Ernie Grimo asked that this be discussed at the banquet later Tuesday evening.

Cultivar Inventory Coordinators Summary Report

Bryan Dayton was not present at the meeting. A report will be published in the 2008 Stakeholders report.

The meeting was recessed until the banquet.

Meeting Reconvened at the Banquet, Tuesday, 12 August 2008

Big Nut

Ken Hunt the 2007 Big Nut Crowned Linda Grimo Big Nut for 2008.

Research Grant Proposals

Greg Miller reported on the two proposals approved for a total of \$18,007. "Genetic Evaluation of Cultivars of Butternut, Heartnut, and Buartnut" by Sean Hoban and Jeanne Romero-Severson, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, grant amount: \$8,700 and "Development of Genetic Markers for Use in Pollination Studies and Identification of Commercial Chestnut Cultivars" by Dennis Fulbright, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI; grant amount: \$10,000 (over 2 years).

Guest Speaker

Shawn Mehlenbacher, hazelnut breeder from Oregon State University presented a great slide show on World Hazelnut Production and Cultivars

Annual Elections

John Martyn, chairman of the nominating committee ran the elections naming those proposed for each position and then opening it for more nominations from the floor.

President: Greg Miller

Motion:

Moved by Jerry Lehman and seconded by Rodney Hart that nominations be closed.

Carried.

Vice-President: Dennis Fulbright

Motion:

Moved by Gary Fernald and seconded by Rodney Hart that nominations be closed.

Carried.

Secretary: Tom Molnar

Motion:

Moved by Tucker Hill and seconded by Leo Rau that nominations be closed.

Carried.

Treasurer: Sandra Anagnostakis

Motion:

Moved by Tucker Hill and seconded by Ernie Grimo that nominations be closed.

Carried.

Directors until 2011:

Robert Miller and Sam Fleet

Motion:

Moved by Jerry Henkin and seconded by Rodney Hart that nominations be closed.

Carried.

Motion:

Moved by Gary Fernald and seconded by Tucker Hill that the acclaimed officers and directors be declared elected.

Carried.

The slate of officers and directors elected by acclamation are:

President	Greg Miller
Vice-President	Dennis Fulbright
Secretary	Tom Molnar

Treasurer	Sandra Anagnostakis
Directors until 2010	Robert Miller
	Sam Fleet

Roster of States and Provinces

Alan read the roster of those attending.

Auction Results

Sally Martyn announced that we made \$1,909 for research through the auction this year.

Other Business

Alan thanked L.J. Grauke for all his hard work in making this annual meeting a great success. He then turned the gavel over to Greg Miller who thanked Alan for all his hard work and also Leah Van Antwerp for her hard work as well.

Robert Miller presented the new membership brochure for groups to take.

Sally Martyn reminded the group that there will be an anniversary cookbook available next year and that if they would like copies to take home for their state organizations, or as gifts, notified a Board Member so that there are enough copies of them at the meeting 2009 in Indiana.

Marsha Henkin announced that the website is updated monthly and if anyone wants notice of when updates occur they should give her their email address.

Greg Miller declared the meeting adjourned and that it would reconvene in Indiana in 2009.

Minutes recorded by Sally Martyn and Tom Molnar.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Molnar, Secretary

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.

BYLAWS OF THE NORTHERN NUT GROWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

As amended 1 August, 2005, 13 August, 2007 and 12 August, 2008

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 full voting members 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. All dues-paying members whose dues have not been paid by 1 January shall be delinquent members. Notices of non-payment of dues shall be mailed to delinquent members on or about 1 March by the Membership Director. The names of all delinquent members shall be dropped from the rolls of the Association on 1 April.

Article 3. Benefits. The *Annual Report of the N.N.G.A.* and *The Nutshell* shall be sent to only full voting members for the current year. Members who are delinquent on 1 April 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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