



Bill Adamsen <bill.adamsen@gmail.com>

Re: minutes CT-TACF 12/15/07

Bill Adamsen <bill.adamsen@gmail.com>

Mon, Dec 17, 2007 at 8:22 PM

To: David Bingham <dbbingham@sbcglobal.net>, Ellery 'Woods' Sinclair <wml61@comcast.net>, "Garrett A. Smith" <roarpine@sbcglobal.net>, Gayle Kida <gayle7258@myway.com>, James Gage <jameswgage@sbcglobal.net>, John Anderson <johnanderson7440@sbcglobal.net>, Micheal McGee <mikemcgee@comcast.net>, Philip Arnold <arnold_philip_dr@sbcglobal.net>, Robert Gregg <drbob007@skybridge.com>, Will Kies <wkies@stamfordmuseum.org>

Cc: Leila Pinchot <leila@acf.org>, Nancy Cebik <ncebik@gmail.com>, Pat van de Kamp <tedvdk@attglobal.net>

Philip:

Thanks for taking and writing up the minutes.

CT-TACF Directors:

Please review for any errors or omissions.

Please forward any written reports if you have not done so.

Bill Adamsen
President, CT-TACF
917.796.4284 (m)

Minutes Connecticut Chapter of TACF - December 15th, 2007
Woodbridge, CT

Directors Present: Phil Arnold, Bill Adamsen, Jim Gage, Robert Gregg, Gayle Kida, Ellery Sinclair, Michael McGee, David Bingham, John Anderson (100% attendance)

Excused Absences: Garrett Smith, Will Kies

Also Present: Leila Pinchot, Jennifer Allcock of the Guilford Conservation Commission

Call to Order: 10:10am

Review of Minutes: Minutes of the CT-TACF Feb. 10th, 2007 reviewed (motions) and meeting approved. Motion to accept the Feb 2007 minutes was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

Presidents report:

- The CT-TACF is in good shape financially, See attached treasurers report.
We are on-target with the plans outlined in the 2006 Strategic Plan
Thanks was given to Leila Pinchot for all her work with orchard, pollination, harvest of nuts and various administrative duties.
The orchard managers were cited for their work as well.
Gayle Kida was particularly recognised for her orchard supplies management.
- Special thanks to Gayle Kida and Woods Sinclair who represented the Ct. Chapter at the ACF annual meeting in Vermont in October.

Finance/Treasurer's Report: Jim Gage distributed the Balance Sheet and Budget which we reviewed (attached).

- Treasurer Jim Gage provided a review of the year's finances to date. The Chapter has a \$14,984 balance with \$11,298 in a Fidelity money market account and \$3,683 in the bank account. See attached report.

- Northeast Utilities gave 6,300 contribution in June. action-item Bill will follow up with Marshal Case to understand if additional contributions had been received. [Dec07]
- A Motion was made to reimburse 50% of Gayle Kida's expenses related to travel to National Meeting in Burlington. The Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- Expenses were less than expected.
 - action-item Jim Gage asked that each committee head submit their budget numbers for 2008 before the end of January. [Jan08]
 - action-item Jim Gage will draft a preliminary Budget for review at the March Meeting [Feb08]
- action-item Bill Adamsen will write a letter of request for a grant for fencing for the Great Mountain Orchard. [Dec07]
- Leila presented a preliminary budget for Guilford Orchard of \$3000 for fencing and an additional estimate of \$1744 for other startup costs. A motion was made to provide the funds under the condition that orchard manager can be identified, a land agreement can be obtained from the town and the Germplasm Agreement signed. The Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- action-item Bill Adamsen will prepare a copy of the Draft Orchard Agreement (memo of understanding), distribute to Directors for review, and forward to Jennifer Allcock. [16Dec07]
- Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

Nominations of Directors: The following have agreed to run for additional 2 year terms; David Bingham, Robert Gregg Phil Arnold, Jim Gage (as Treasurer).

Tree Breeding Coordinator Report: Gayle handed out a two page summary of the Tree Breeding activities for 2007 (attached)

- The CT-TACF chapter now has 4 functioning orchards with 11 backcross lines. 2 test orchards, Guilford and Greenwich were planted. 6 mother trees were pollinated.

The Canaan tree was deemed Connecticut's largest known American chestnut by Ed Richardson of Connecticut College's Notable Trees Project.

We have a significant number of potential Mother Trees. Mother trees were assigned to individuals for on going care and follow up: North Egremont (Curtis Rand), Tolland (Mike Mcgee), Old Lyme (David Bingham), Gregg tree (Bob Gregg), Salem (TBA). Others will help with monitoring as necessary.

- A small self propelled bucket rental (225/day with 100 delivery fee) was discussed.

Orchard Manager Reports:

- The four Orchard Managers each provided a report with update on survival rates, average and min/max size, and anecdotal learnings
 - Woodbridge - Phil Arnold Salem - David Bingham Swan Farm Ellington - Jim Gage/Gayle Kida
 - Great Mountain Forest - Ellery Woods Sinclair

Regional Science Coordinator Report: Leila Pinchot provided her report.

- Leila would like everyone to focus on dates and events they'd like assistance from CT-TACF for 2008 Leila is working with Pat van de Kamp on an educational Orchard for Choate and the Norwalk Tree Alliance. Leila has spoken to Nancy Cebik who will be coordinating the 2008 (February) CT Flower Show in Hartford. action-item Set aside some time to attend and man our booth Thursday Feb 21st through Sunday Feb 24th [Dec07]action-item Nancy Cebik will coordinate the Flower Show booth arrangements

[Dec07]Leila asked for someone to take ownership of sending a short article about CT to Lou Bedor quarterly for the Bark. action-item John Anderson agreed to coordinate the Bark submittals.[continuing 2008]We discussed a late-winter Newsletter to announce an annual meeting in March and required Articles.

- action-item David Bingham agreed to send an article on Ecology of enclosed areas [Dec 07]
- action-item Michael McGee agreed to put together an article on the Crandall Park Hike
- action-item Orchard Managers to provide written Orchard Updates

We agreed the Newsletter would have

- a "call to action" membership form
- a message of thanks for in-kind services
- a calendar of events such as plantings

New Business:

- Ellery asked if he could approach a specific Student about whether there was interest in functioning as an Intern. We discussed the ideal situation for an intern - namely having available the weeks immediately preceding pre-bagging, and then working to assist with pollinations and coordination. A motion was made to allocate up to \$2000 for a summer intern, was seconded and passed unanimously.
- Suggested by-laws changes were distributed by John Anderson and will be considered at the annual meeting in March. action-item Bill Adamsen agreed to move the ByLaws to a Word Document and send to John Anderson so that the Bylaws could be reviewed in whole with proposed changes at the Annual Meeting. [Dec07]

Respectfully,
Philip B. Arnold M.D.

On Dec 16, 2007 10:44 PM, PHILIP ARNOLD DR <arnold_philip_dr@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

Dear Bill, If the minutes fail to transmit, call me and I will send a hard copy. If you are missing any of the hard copy attachments let me know. It did not seem prudent to rewrite them all.

Phil

Connecticut Chapter Tree Breeding Report 2007

The Connecticut Chapter now has 11 backcross lines with Clapper resistance. I believe all of our current seedlings and seeds are fourth backcrosses to American:

6 lines = Seedlings: Enfield (Pavlakis), Woodbridge (Calistro), Manchester (Marriott), Stafford (CCC), Tolland (Congregational), Roxbury (CAES).

1 line = Seedlings and Seeds: Salem (Bingham)

4 lines = Seeds: Rocky Hill (CAES), Union (Yale-Myers), Burlington (Clark), Canaan (Emmons).

Our Woodbridge and Salem orchards planted additional lines, and two new orchards planted their first lines, Great Mountain in Falls Village, and NCLT Swann Farm in Ellington.

In addition to our backcross orchards, two test sites were planted, Guilford and Greenwich. CT-TACF also planted additional nuts at the Stamford Museum and Nature Center's Research Orchard.

Jim and NCLT members Jerry Stage and Arend Knuettel took end of season measurements of seedling growth in the Ellington orchard. Our other orchard measurements were performed by Leila with Phil at Woodbridge, David at Salem and Woods at Great Mountain. Despite a very dry summer I believe our plantings did well with germination ranging from 69% to 90% and average height in the teens to 20's. Leila has summary data and individual tree measurements for each orchard.

Between June 19th and July 10th we were busy with bagging and pollinating six mother trees. Bartlett Tree Experts generously donated bucket truck and arborist services to pollinate the Canaan and Burlington trees, assisted by Gayle Kida. David Bingham re-pollinated the Salem tree to up the nut count, and pollinated the Old Lyme Library tree assisted by Jack Ostroff. Unfortunately, the Lyme pollination produced only a few seeds. Try again next year? Leila and volunteers worked with mother trees in Union (Yale-Myers Forest) and at Lockwood Farms (Rocky Hill source). Gayle and Leila also pollinated F1's and collected American and Chinese control nuts. Harvesting nuts occurred September 21 through October 6.

On August 31 Ed Richardson, representative of Connecticut College's Notable Trees Project, visited and measured the Canaan tree with Gayle. The tree was awarded 124 AFA points: 71 feet tall, 43 inch circumference and 39 feet average branch spread. Our mother tree is now officially Connecticut's largest American chestnut! Mudpacks have been placed over many cankered areas of the trunk in an attempt to keep this tree alive for a few more years. Bartlett donated an additional bucket truck visit to mudpack the highest cankers while Woods and Mary Lu Sinclair, Gayle and the tree owner worked on areas accessible by ladders.

Details and dates of our various planting and pollination events follow below.

Gayle Kida
Tree Breeding Coordinator

December 2007

2007 Backcross Orchard Plantings:

April 14 - Salem Orchard Planting David Bingham, Bill Adamsen, Jim Gage, Gayle Kida and Leila Pinchot joined volunteers to plant the Roxbury and Salem BC4 lines. Enfield BC4 line planted in 2006.

April 21 - Woodbridge Land Trust Orchard Planting Phil Arnold, Robert Gregg and Leila assisted volunteers planting the Manchester BC4 line. The Woodbridge BC4 line was planted in 2006.

April 21 & 28 - Ellington Northern Connecticut Land Trust Orchard Planting Jim Gage, Gayle and eighteen NCLT volunteers erected a deer fence and planted its first line, Stafford BC4.

(Connecticut Chapter Tree Breeding Report 2007 – page 2)

May 29 - Great Mountain Orchard Planting, Falls Village Ellery “Woods” Sinclair and Leila instructed sixteen students from Housatonic Valley Regional High School as they planted the Tolland BC4 line, assisted by Dan Hayhurst of nearby Chubby Bunny Farms.

2007 Demonstration Orchards and Test Plantings:

April 18 - Stamford Museum and Nature Center Research Grove Planting Will Kies, Pat Van de Kamp and Leila helped nature center staff and children plant additional nuts on this site, which was established in 2004.

April 20 - Greenwich Land Trust Test Planting Leila, Dan Barrett and Dick Lane from the Greenwich Land Trust, and other volunteers planted test seeds at the Duck Pond Hill Preserve.

May 5 - Guilford Conservation Commission Test Planting Leila, Conservation Commission representatives, CT-TACF member Brian Pistolese and other volunteers planted 20 seeds at Nut Plains Park.

2007 Mother Trees Pollination and Harvest:

Rocky Hill (CAES): 136 nuts

Union (Yale-Myers): 46 (if tree is alive next year, re-pollinate?)

Burlington (Clark): 596 Probably need only 150 – 200 for orchard.*

Canaan (Emmons): 460 See Burlington comment – ditto.*

Salem (Bingham): 47 (re-pollinated, to up nut count)

* Need to decide use for extra nuts. Plant backups for the 2 lines at Guilford and/or Greenwich? Research possibilities: TACF Phytophthora experiments, Yale Myers forestry project if GPA signed?

Control nuts Pollination and Collection:

Leila F1's (American x Chinese), Americans and Chinese: Number of nuts allocated to CT to be determined

Gayle West Suffield F1's Chinese x American: 62 nuts total (from 2 trees, Burlington and Canaan pollen)

Gayle Burlington open-pollinated American: 32 nuts collected

Gayle West Suffield Chinese open-pollinated: 121 total nuts (collected from 2 trees)

Trees Reported and Checked 2007 that did not make pollination list:

Willington (Rte. 74, planted, MI genes), Norfolk (Larkin – died), Tolland (Doyle Rd/Rte.74, flowering stem died), Great Mountain (need skidder, not easily accessed), Granby (Johnson, trees are Chinese and hybrids), Glastonbury (Coville, appears Chinese), Bolton (Winkler, appears Chinese), Cromwell (near CT Natural Gas Compressor station - not found), Middletown (Aetna Ring Road, hickories?), Wallingford (Williams Rd – Chinese), Farmington (Sigman - photos show Chinese appearing tree. Thanks Jim, Mike, Leila, John, Bill and member Charles Leach for checking status of known trees and new reports.

Mother Trees Candidates for 2008:

Good chance we will pollinate these:

North Egremont, MA – Reported by Matt Zaolino, ID confirmed, just over CT border, need permission

Tolland – 2 trees: Cat Hole Rd and Pilgrim Rd, ID's have been confirmed by Leila. May pollinate as one line

These are possibilities, need more info:

Canaan – 2 trees, ID confirmed, need to check flowering status 2008

New Hartford – Adamsen confirmed American, blooming 2008?

Burlington – Withepass Rd, (need ID American, not blooming 2007) Ladders only, leach field

Norfolk – Larkin, check the other tree on his property, is this one accessible?

Norfolk, Beckley Road south of Rte 44 - 2 trees per Bill, not blooming 2007. American ID confirmed?

???Produce American seeds for mined land reclamation, contact Carolyn Kiefer (possible use for Canaan Emmons if leaf out looks strong in June?)

These we probably can't pollinate:

Granby – 2 trees across street from #22 Edgerton Rd, Gayle got no response to letter and pamphlet placed in property owner's mailbox; owner has unlisted phone number

West Suffield – 1085 North Stone Street - power lines right in front of flowering branches

CT-TACF Current Assets
Dec. 15, 2007

Bank Account	\$3,683
Fidelity Money Market	\$11,298
Total	\$14,981

Income / Expense Report 2007

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Budget
Income														
Memberships	\$345.00	\$105.00	\$550.00	\$180.00			\$1,340.00	\$255.00	\$320.00	\$130.00		\$-	\$3,225.00	\$3,400.00
Contributions						\$6,300.00							\$6,300.00	\$2,600.00
Grants						\$-							\$-	\$2,000.00
Interest	6.57	\$13.24	\$22.37	\$16.44	\$25.04	\$34.55	\$46.81	\$47.51	\$46.59	\$47.35	\$44.04	\$-	\$350.51	\$200.00
Total Income	\$351.57	\$118.24	\$572.37	\$196.44	\$25.04	\$6,334.55	\$1,386.81	\$302.51	\$366.59	\$177.35	\$44.04	\$-	\$9,875.51	\$8,200.00
Expense														
Directors Meetings (President)													\$-	\$100.00
TACF Meetings (President)													\$-	\$500.00
Member Services (Membership)													\$-	\$400.00
Finance (Treasurer)					\$36.57	\$25.00							\$61.57	\$100.00
Annual Meeting (Education)													\$-	\$600.00
Other Meetings (Education)									\$83.29				\$83.29	\$100.00
Demo Plantings (Education)													\$-	\$400.00
Newsletter (Communications)				\$584.60									\$584.60	\$1,000.00
Posters & Print (Comm)													\$-	\$500.00
Website (Communications)													\$-	\$200.00
Orchard Supplies			\$186.00	\$275.00	\$1,216.97			\$208.04			75.53		\$1,961.54	\$4,215.00
Orchard Services					\$79.63			208.98			28.33		\$316.94	\$1,090.00
Orchard Equipment					\$251.84	\$186.04		160.35			30.37		\$628.60	\$980.00
Internship (Tree Breeding)													\$-	\$1,000.00
Grants to Land Trusts													\$-	\$2,000.00
Total Expense	\$-	\$186.00	\$859.60	\$1,585.01	\$211.04	\$211.04	\$-	\$577.37	\$-	\$-	\$217.52	\$-	\$3,636.54	\$13,185.00
Net Income	\$351.57	\$118.24	\$386.37	\$(663.16)	\$(1,559.97)	\$6,123.51	\$1,386.81	\$(274.86)	\$366.59	\$177.35	\$(173.48)	\$-	\$6,238.97	\$(4,985.00)