

HOS-CRFG-NAFEX Meeting 2014

Information for Organization Websites, Newsletters, etc.

22 January, 2014

What: Joint Meeting of -

**Home Orchard Society (HOS)
North American Fruit Explorers (NAFEX)
California Rare Fruit Growers (CRFG)**

When: August 6-9, 2014

Where: Portland, Oregon

Venue: McMenamins Edgefield Inn is a wonderfully eclectic and artistic eating, sleeping and meeting place on a 74 acre parcel of farmland a short drive east of Portland.

The “Big Three” North American amateur fruit growing organizations will be holding a joint meeting this summer outside of Portland, Oregon. Join us for 3 organized days of lectures and tours, and an additional day of on-your-own activities in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. Western Oregon enjoys mild summer temperatures and clear sunny days, and offers many nearby travel opportunities from unpopulated beaches to majestic volcanic mountains. The diverse agricultural areas are teeming with vineyards, nurseries, berries and orchards that are of special interest to these groups.

Meeting venue will be at one of the more interesting of the McMenamin properties. The historic Edgefield Inn was originally the county poor farm but has been artistically restored into a popular meeting and celebration site. Check out their website at: <http://www.mcmenamins.com/54-edgefield-home>

Wednesday, August 6, we have lined up a full day of very interesting presenters, including a session devoted to celebrating the Year of the Quince! Featured presenters include the Queen of Quince, Barbara Ghazarian; Keynote banquet speaker Susan Dolan will talk about Historic Orchards in our National Parks. Amigo Bob Cantisano will talk about establishing The Felix Gillet Institute to preserve the historic contributions of a California nursery pioneer. Well known garden author Lee Reich will inspire you with tales of cultivating uncommon fruits. Retired USDA apple curator Phil Forsline will enlighten us as to the “Real” origin of his favorite fruit, and several other inspiring

nurserymen, growers, extension specialists and cider makers will motivate us to explore new horizons of fruit growing. There will also be an 'Open Mic' session, where any member can sign up to make a short presentation on a fruit related topic.

Tours have been arranged to the geologically fascinating fruit growing region along the Columbia River Gorge on August 7, and the USDA Genebank and Oregon State University in Corvallis on August 8. Tour space will be limited, so plan to register early. Registration for the meeting and tours will open in early March. Watch for more information and the registration form at the Home Orchard Society website: <http://www.homeorchardsociety.org/>

Joanie Cooper, Pete Scott and Joseph Postman are working on making this 2014 meeting interesting and affordable. Feel free to contact Joanie (pomonascion@gmail.com) with logistics question or Joseph (joseph.postman@ars.usda.gov) with presentation questions, and we hope to see you in August.

Tentative Agenda

Tuesday evening, August 5

- Evening registration and welcome at Edgefield Inn
- Evening NAFEX Board Meeting at Best Western

Wednesday, August 6

- Full day of presentations at Edgefield Inn.
- Evening buffet dinner with speakers:
Amigo Cantisano, The Felix Gillet Institute and **Lee Reich**, Garden Writer

Thursday, August 7

Choice of Bus Tours:

1. Columbia River Gorge: Waterfalls and Geology; Bonneville Dam; OSU Mid-Columbia Research Station; Columbia Organics Composting.
2. Hazelnut Orchard & Olive Farm/Winery Tour

Banquet at Edgefield in evening with guest speaker Susan Dolan:
Historic Orchards in our National Parks.

Friday, August 8

Choice of Bus Tours:

1. Corvallis: Oregon State University hazelnut breeding; lunch and tasting at 2-Townes Ciderhouse; USDA Fruit and Nut Genebank.
2. Fruit Farm and Winery Tour (tentative)

Saturday, August 9

Various on-your-own options including HOS Arboretum Open House & Cider Tasting, One Green World Nursery, Portland Area Attractions

Note that on Sunday, August 10, the Northern Nut Growers Association (NNGA) meeting begins in Corvallis. More info at <http://www.nutgrowing.org/meetinfo.htm>