

# The WESTERN CHESTNUT

Vol. 3 No. 2

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Spring 2001

## Association Survey Being Conducted to Determine Member Interests and Needs

In an effort to better serve growers throughout the west you will find a survey form included in this issue on pages 3 and 4. This survey was initially presented at the Annual Meeting, but because attendance was small and was limited to Washington and Oregon growers it was felt that a greater response was needed.

For those of you who completed it at the meeting you will notice that it looks a little different. It has been reorganized by category, but the questions themselves are identical. So if you've already completed it there's no need to do it again.

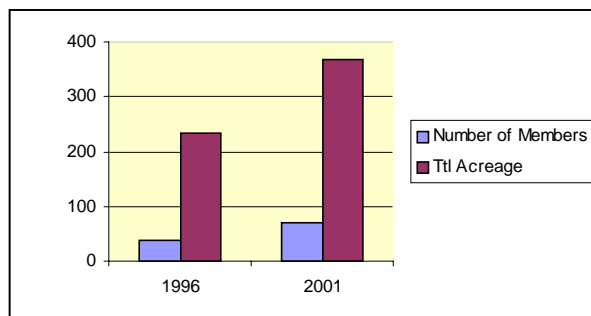
If you haven't completed it, please do so now and send it to Chris Foster no later than April 21 for tabulation. Your response will remain anonymous.

The information gathered will be used to plan speakers for meetings and to organize events of interest, and will be used as a guide by your editor in selecting articles for publication.

The survey results will be reported in the next newsletter. Your participation is encouraged.

## WCGA Membership Makeup Changes as Interest in Crop Grows

In 1996 when the Western Chestnut Growers' Assn. was incorporated records show there was a total of thirty eight members from four western states. Four of these were not involved directly in growing. The members at that time reported a total 235 acres in production with an average orchard size of 7.3 acres. The oldest orchard at that time was 10 years old, with most having been planted since 1990.



As membership dues were received this year it was interesting to note the changes in only five years since the formation of the organization. Membership has increased by 105% to a total of 78 members, and covers nine states. Our newsletter is distributed in other states and Australia as well in an ex-

change with other organizations designed to share information.

Total acreage reported has gone from that original 235 acres to a current total of 367 acres, an increase of 56%, and the average orchard size has increased to 9.7 acres.

It is interesting to note that while the majority of trees planted are Colossal, members are becoming increasingly interested in other varieties. In 1996 growers reported

having 24 different varieties. Today they report 37 varieties including Alachua, American, Behind the Broadview, Belle Epine, Bisalta, Bouche de Betizac, Campbell, Carolina, Carpenter, Castanea Columbiana, Castanea Dentata, Chinese, Colossal, Douglas, Dunstan, Duvar, Eurabella, Japanese, King, Layeroka, Maraval, Marron du

Var, Marroni de Lucerna, Marroni di Lucerna, Marsol, Marval, Mirgoule, Myoka, Nevada, Precoce Migoule, Precoce Mirgoale, Silverleaf, Skioka, Skookum, St. Helens, and Willamette.

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## Portland, Oregon Hosts 2001 WCGA Annual Meeting

A small but enthusiastic crowd listened attentively as Jeff Olsen, OSU Extension Agent, summarized and commented upon the foliar analysis results submitted by WCGA members in July, 2000. Results will be further analyzed and presented by Anthony Boutard in a complete article to appear in the July issue of this newsletter.

Annie Bhagwandin reported on her appearance on the Good Day Oregon TV program and the role it played in her marketing plan.

The final session of the day was an open discussion which touched on many issues including quality standards, marketing, participation events that might be of interest to growers, problems in dealing with buyers and a few others, some of which are dealt with in the enclosed survey.

There seemed to be a shared concern about the need for growers to educate produce managers on a continuing basis, and to monitor their product in the markets for proper handling.

Minutes of the business meeting are to be found on page 7.

### Willing to Help Newcomers?

Can we list you on the WCGA website as someone willing to help new or prospective growers? If so let your Editor/Webmaster know at [Carolyn@ChestnutsOnLine.com](mailto:Carolyn@ChestnutsOnLine.com)

### In This Issue

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*At the annual meeting a survey was taken to determine what things are of the most interest to association members. Almost every topic on the survey was of more than general interest so the revised survey has been categorized in an effort to provide some direction for the association. If there is a specific item that you would like to work on please let me, or one of the other board members, know. The more people that are involved, the stronger our association will be and the more rewarding it will be to us individually.*

*A late summer field day is being scheduled in California. Hopefully it will coincide with that harvest, which is at least 30 days ahead of the harvest in the Northwest. Most of the California orchards are older and their growing conditions are very different from those in the Northwest. It should be a very interesting trip and provide an opportunity for growers from different areas to exchange ideas. I urge everyone who is able to attend.*

*The promotion of fresh chestnuts was discussed at the annual meeting. The idea of individual growers roasting chestnuts at key locations like specialty stores, farmers markets or wineries has been mentioned. A pamphlet that could include nutritional information, some recipes and perhaps some historical chestnut information could be distributed. Promotion of the association and reference to the web page can also be included. If any members have had experience doing this please share some of your techniques or things to avoid. Volunteers to work on the pamphlet will also be appreciated.*

*I am looking forward to another year of chestnut challenges and I encourage all growers to get involved in the activities of your association. It is a great way to learn.*  
*Ben*

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### EDITOR'S NOTES

*This issue is a little short on informational articles so that we could include the member survey Ben mentions in his column as well as the association's membership directory. If you see any errors in the directory please let me know so that they can be corrected. Several of you have asked that I include the expiration date of your membership on your mailing label and I will attempt to do that in the future.*

*Anthony Boutard has outdone himself again by providing a marvelous historical article on "John Evelyn's Chestnut". The chapter is set forth as written by Evelyn in the original old English, and Anthony provides us an explanation and clarification as required.*



## WESTERN CHESTNUT GROWERS ASSN., INC.

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### NOTICE

The Western Chestnut is published quarterly by the Western Chestnut Growers Assn., Inc. at PO Box 841, Ridgefield, WA 98642.

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Regular membership is \$20 per year per person. Members receive The Western Chestnut quarterly. For foreign delivery contact Editor for pricing. Back issues may be obtained by members. Membership applications may be obtained from the Secretary-Treasurer.

### POSTMASTER

Send Address changes to WCGA, c/o PO Box 841, Ridgefield, WA 98642.

### ADVERTISING RATES

Full page, camera ready (w/1 photo) . \$15.00  
Half page, camera ready (w/1 photo) ... 10.00  
Quarter page ..... 7.50  
Business card (4 issues) ..... 10.00

One classified ad per member per year is free (max 6 lines, \$2.50 ea add'l 6 lines). Ad space may be reserved with full payment but must meet established deadlines. If ad is cancelled, money may be refunded if space is resold. Make checks payable to Western Chestnut Growers Assn., Inc.

All ads and other copy preferred in PC format on disk or e-mail to [Carolyn@ChestnutsOnline.com](mailto:Carolyn@ChestnutsOnline.com). Ads must adhere to published ad sizes for space purchased. Call for specifics. Otherwise for best results, submit original photographs. Layout of ads will not be done until payment is received. **Send materials to P.O. Box 841, Ridgefield, WA 98642, or Fedex/Express Mail to 29112 NW 41st Ave., Ridgefield, WA 98642.** Call for further info.

### PUBLICATION AND DEADLINES

Fall issue	deadline 9/10	mailed 10/1
Winter issue	deadline 12/10	mailed 1/1
Spring issue	deadline 3/10	mailed 4/1
Summer issue	deadline 6/10	mailed 7/1

### EDITORIAL OPINION

The views, articles and advertising appearing in The Western Chestnut Quarterly do not necessarily reflect the attitude nor policy of the Western Chestnut Growers Assn., its members, officers, Board of Directors or Editor. The Western Chestnut Growers Assn. Inc., and this publication are not responsible for errors and/or misrepresentations in advertising. The Editor reserves the right to reject or edit all material submitted for publication.

**NOTICE:**

This survey was distributed at the annual meeting and those who attended completed it and turned it in. Your Board of Directors felt that to encourage participation from those who were unable to attend we would publish it in the newsletter. We've reorganized the questions by category, but the questions are the same as those distributed previously. If you've already turned your survey in you don't need to send it again. Please fold as shown on the reverse side and return to Chris Foster, 15400 NW McNamee Rd., Portland, OR 97231 or **FAX it to him** at 503-621-3686 **no later than April 21, 2001**. Thank you.

**WCGA Interest Survey**

**We'd like your input for planning future meetings, field days, newsletter content and other events.**

**Meetings & Events of interest** -- Circle YES or NO

- YES NO\_\_ I would support an annual meeting held alternately in Northwest and No. Calif.  
 YES NO\_\_ I would support changing the annual meeting date to mid/late October  
 YES NO\_\_ I would support a full day annual meeting w/ Cont. breakfast and no-host lunch  
 YES NO\_\_ I would prefer a Saturday meeting  
 YES NO\_\_ I would support a social activity the evening preceding the annual meeting  
 YES NO\_\_ I would like to have an orchard tour in conjunction with the annual meeting

- YES NO\_\_ I would like to have handouts available for all meeting presentations  
 YES NO\_\_ I would like to have taste tests at some event during the year  
 YES NO\_\_ I would support staging a community based chestnut festival(s)  
 YES NO\_\_ I would support a grafting workshop  
 YES NO\_\_ I would be interested in a demonstration of harvesting equipment  
 Other events you would suggest: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Topics of Interest for Meetings &/or Newsletter:**

Please indicate your interest level by ranking as follows:

*1 Very Interested*

*2 Somewhat Interested*

*3 Little or no interest*

**Analysis**

- \_\_\_\_ Foliar analysis  
 \_\_\_\_ Soil analysis

**Financial**

- \_\_\_\_ Grants and loans available  
 \_\_\_\_ Your orchard and the IRS

**Harvesting and Processing**

- \_\_\_\_ Drying  
 \_\_\_\_ Harvesting equipment  
 \_\_\_\_ Managing the harvest  
 \_\_\_\_ Ozone treatment  
 \_\_\_\_ Peeling  
 \_\_\_\_ Processing equipment  
 \_\_\_\_ Processing methods  
 \_\_\_\_ Refrigeration  
 \_\_\_\_ Sorting nuts

**Insects, Disease and Weed Control**

- \_\_\_\_ Blight  
 \_\_\_\_ Chestnut weevil  
 \_\_\_\_ Pesticides  
 \_\_\_\_ Phytophthora  
 \_\_\_\_ Shot hole borer  
 \_\_\_\_ Weed control

**Irrigation/Fertilization**

- \_\_\_\_ Fertilization  
 \_\_\_\_ Irrigation  
 \_\_\_\_ Irrigation systems  
 \_\_\_\_ Use of water sensors  
 \_\_\_\_ Water rights

**Legal Issues**

- \_\_\_\_ Farm labor management  
 \_\_\_\_ Health regulations (handling/storing)  
 \_\_\_\_ Liability issues

- \_\_\_\_ OSHA and the grower  
 \_\_\_\_ PNN updates

**Marketing**

- \_\_\_\_ Advertising in magazines/newspapers  
 \_\_\_\_ Dealing with brokers  
 \_\_\_\_ Educating consumers  
 \_\_\_\_ Educating produce managers  
 \_\_\_\_ On farm sales  
 \_\_\_\_ Packaging  
 \_\_\_\_ Pricing  
 \_\_\_\_ Quality standards  
 \_\_\_\_ Selling at farmers' markets  
 \_\_\_\_ Selling to restaurants  
 \_\_\_\_ Value added products  
 \_\_\_\_ Website development

**Orchard Management**

- \_\_\_\_ Establishing an orchard  
 \_\_\_\_ Grafting and propagation  
 \_\_\_\_ Orchard maintenance  
 \_\_\_\_ Organic farming  
 \_\_\_\_ Pruning  
 \_\_\_\_ Soil  
 \_\_\_\_ Varieties

**Miscellaneous**

- \_\_\_\_ Establishing the chestnut industry  
 \_\_\_\_ Features on individual orchards/growers  
 \_\_\_\_ Pollination  
 \_\_\_\_ What *doesn't* work

Other topics you would like to see: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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Christopher Foster  
15400 NW McNamee Rd.  
Portland, OR 97231

# John Evelyn's Chestnut

by Anthony Boutard

In February 1663, the “Royal Society of London for Improving of Natural Knowledge” published a comprehensive book about trees by John Evelyn (1620 - 1706), one of the society’s founders. *Sylva, Or a Discourse of Forest-Trees, and the Propagation of Timber in His Majesties Dominions* begins with descriptions of various forest trees, and then follows with a broader discussion about forest management, concluding with a sharp critique about the need for laws and statutes to protect forests. Evelyn was a renowned gardener and diarist, well read and traveled. He spent his youth in France, Italy and Flanders (Belgium) protected from the Civil Wars, returning to England with the restoration of Charles II as monarch.

Evelyn includes a chapter about the chestnut in *Sylva*. The chestnut was probably introduced to England by the Romans. However, the fruit, the “bread of the woods” in other cultures, never stirred the refined English palate, and the tree was managed primarily for timber and poles. Chestnut poles, being straight and long lived in the ground, are the best for the trellising of hops, an area where the English taste found good expression.

Evelyn’s chapter on chestnut follows. I transcribed it from the first edition, and have retained the archaic spelling, capitalization and punctuation as they are not a big impediment to understanding the text. To help clarify some of the references and archaic words, and provide translation of the Latin quotes, I have annotated the text with footnotes. My college Latin is a bit rusty, so I will welcome more precise translations from sharper minds, and the Greek is a completely unschooled effort.

1. The next is the Chest-nut, [Castanea] of which Pliny<sup>1</sup> reckons many kinds, especially that about Tarentum<sup>2</sup> and Naples; but we commend those of Portugal. They are raised best by sowing; previous to which, let the Nuts be first spread to sweat, then cover them in sand; a Moneth being past, plunge them in water, reject the swimmers; being dry’d for thirty days more, sand them again, then to the water-ordeal as before. Being thus treated, set them as you would do Beans: Pliny will tell you they come not up, unless four or five be pil’d together in a hole; but that is false, if they be good, as you may presume all those to be that past this examination; nor will any of them fail: But being come up they thrive best unremov’d, making a great stand for at least two years upon transplanting<sup>3</sup>; Yet if you must alter their station, let it be done about November, and that in light, friable ground, or moist Gravel; however, they will grow in clay, sand, and all mixed soils, upon expos’d and bleak places, as more patient of cold then heat.

<sup>1</sup> Pliny the Elder of Rome (AD 23 - 79) wrote the multi-volume encyclopedic *Natural History* which remained a standard reference in Evelyn’s time. An admiral in the Roman navy, Pliny died observing the eruption of Mount Vensuvius.

<sup>2</sup> Tarentum, or Taranto (Puglia), is a port city of southern Italy, within the arch of the “boot.” Today the city serves as an Italian naval base and industrial center. Olives and almonds, rather than chestnuts, are most closely associated with the Pugliese cuisine.

<sup>3</sup> i.e. They don’t grow for at least two years after transplanting.

2. If you desire to set them in the winter, or autumn, I counsel you to, inter them within their husks, which being every way arm’d are a good protection against the Mouse, and a providential integument: Some sow them confusedly in the Furrow like the Acorn<sup>4</sup> and govern them as the Oak; but then would the ground be broken up ‘twixt November and February; and when they spring be cleansed at two foot asunder, after two years growth: Likewise may copses<sup>5</sup> of Chestnuts be wonderfully increased and thickened by laying<sup>6</sup> the tender and young

<sup>4</sup> In Germany, oak is still regenerated by digging furrows and spreading thousands of acorns (700kg/ha) within them. Over time the most poorly formed trees are rogued out, eventually a few robust trees are left. The magnificent Spessart oaks of the Main River Valley in central Germany have been regenerated in this precise manner for centuries. The practice of successively selecting the weak for removal, as opposed to selecting the vigorous for retention, is known among foresters as “thinning from below.”

<sup>5</sup> Archaic spelling of “coppice,” a silvicultural technique used for the production of poles, handles and firewood. Young trees are cut and the resulting stump sprouts are thinned, with a few of the best and straightest shoots retained. The exact number retained depends on the age of the stump and how the sprouts will be used. The sprouts are harvested when they are a suitable size, generally eight to 20 years. Chestnuts are excellent for coppicing.

<sup>6</sup> Evelyn is referring to the propagation technique of layering, where branches are covered with soil and form roots from suppressed buds under the bark. Capacity to root along the stem varies with family, and among species and varieties. Willows and poplars do so vigorously. Among the chestnuts, it is a trait with a great deal of variability.

branches; but such that spring from the nuts and marrons are best of all, and will thrive exceedingly, if being let stand without removing, the ground be stirr'd and loosen'd about their roots for two or three of the first years, and the superfluous wood pruned away: Thus you will have a copse ready for felling within eight years, which (besides many other uses) will yield you incomparable poles for any work of the garden, vineyard or hop-yard, till the next cutting: And if the tree like the ground, will in ten or twelve years grow to a kind of timber, and bear plentiful fruit.

3. I have seen many Chest-nut-trees transplanted as big as my arm, their heads cut off at five and six foot height; but they came on at leisure<sup>7</sup>: In such plantations, and all others for avenues, you may set them from thirty to ten foot distance, though they will grow them neerer, and shoot into poles, if (being tender) you cultivate them like ash.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>7</sup> i.e. They recover slowly from transplanting.

<sup>8</sup> Despite a poor reputation among the northwestern species, ash is a superlative wood for handles, bows, ladders, spokes and any other use requiring a strong, supple wood. It is also the wood of the "Louisville Slugger." In England, it is grown in hedgerows.

4. The Chest-nut being graffed in the Wall-nut, Oak or Beech,<sup>9</sup> (I have been told) will come exceeding fair, and produce incomparable Fruit; for the Wall-nut it is probable; but I have not as yet made a full attempt: In the mean time, I wish we did more universally propagate the Horse-chest-nut, which being easily increas'd from layers

<sup>9</sup> Given the fact that chestnuts vary in size from an acorn to a walnut, Evelyn may well have mistranslated some reference or conversation. Walnut would not make a good candidate for chestnut root stock. Not only is it a different family, but wood structure is very different. Oak and beech share the same family (Fagaceae) as chestnuts, and grafting between genera is possible. Nonetheless, chestnut grows so fast, and is such a finicky scion, it is hard to imagine what circumstance would require grafting chestnut to either oak or beech, except, possibly, where the soil is very chalky. Some oaks tolerate alkaline soils well, so it is possible that topworking an oak, if successful, might yield some benefit.

<sup>10</sup> A "standard" is a single stemmed tree, the opposite of a coppice. An old forest management regime, "coppice with standards," entails coppicing trees on a short rotation of ten years or so, while the standards grow to be large, spreading timber trees. The coppiced trees provide small wood without competing with the standards for light. Horse chestnuts are amenable to "pollarding" or removal of the limbs, which in turn encourages numerous and vigorous sprouts. In effect, a "standard with coppice" is created. Today, pollarded trees are managed for aesthetics, although the practice arose from the endless demand for small dimension stove wood. The flush of branches pruned annually were carefully collected. For breadmaking, bundles of branches provide a quick, hot, and easy to manage fire. When the oven is hot, the ashes are brushed out and the bread put inside to bake.

grows into a goodly Standard,<sup>10</sup> and bears a most glorious flower, even in our cold country: This tree is now all the mode for the Avenues to their Countrey palaces in France, as appears by the late superintendents Plantation at Vaux.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> A reference to Chateaux Vaux-le-Vicomte, an extravagant architectural and landscaping effort commissioned in 1656 by Nicholas Bouquet (1615 - 1680), later eclipsed by Versailles. The insulting opulence of Vaux-le-Vicomte led Louis XIV to imprison Bouquet, his Minister of Finance, for misuse of state funds. The droll "late superintendents" is a reference to Fouquet's death with respect to social status, not his biological death 17 years after Evelyn's book was published.

5. The use of the Chest-nut is (next the oak) one of the most sought after by the Carpenter and Joyner<sup>12</sup>: It hath formerly built a good part of the ancient houses in the City of London, as does yet appear. I once had a very large barn neer the city fram'd intirely of this timber: And certainly they grew not far off, probably in some woods near the Town: For in that description of London written by Fitz-Stephens, in the Reign of Hen.2.<sup>13</sup> he speaks of a very noble and large Forest which grew on the Boreal part of it: *Proxime* (says he) *patet foresta ingens, faltus memorosi ferarum, latebrae, cervorum, damarum, aprorum, & taurorum Sylvestrium, &c.*<sup>14</sup> A goodly thing it seems, as well as stored with Venison and all kinds of chase. The Chest-nut affords the best Stakes and Poles for Palisades and Hops, as I said before, and being planted in Hedgerows & circa agrorum itinera,<sup>15</sup> or for Avenues to our Country-houses, they are a magnificent and royal Ornament: But we give that fruit to our Swine in England, which is amongst the delicacies of Princes in other Countries: and being of the larger Nut, it is a lusty, and masculine food for Rustics at all times. The best Tables in France and Italy make them a service, eating them with Salt, in Wine, being first rosted on the Chapplet;<sup>16</sup> and doubtless we might propagate their use, amongst our common people, at lest (as of old the Βαλανοφαγοι)<sup>17</sup> being a Food so cheap, and so lasting.

<sup>12</sup> A joiner.

<sup>13</sup> Henry II Plantagenet, 1133 - 1189. William Fitzstephen (d. 1190) was an assistant to Thomas Beckett, an eyewitness to Beckett's murder, and wrote the first biography of the Archbishop: *Vitae Sancti Thomae*. The piece quoted by Evelyn is from the long preface of that autobiography titled: *Descriptio Noblissimae Civitatis Londonae*. According to the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, the preface is the most detailed account of 12th century London extant.

<sup>14</sup> Loosely: "Very near there lies a vast forest, it is believed a hiding place of wild beasts, coverts of deer, of elk, of wild boars, of woodland cattle, and other things."

<sup>15</sup> "And along the pathways of the fields." It is unclear whether Evelyn is further quoting Fitzstephens here, or, more likely, just lapsing into a Latin digression.

<sup>16</sup> The Oxford English Dictionary defines "chapplet" as "a kind of circular gridiron," citing Evelyn's text as the only reference

**Western Chestnut Growers' Assn., Inc.**  
Minutes of the Annual Meeting, Feb. 1, 2001

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Steve Jones, President, at 3:25 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel – Columbia River, Portland, Oregon, with 16 members present.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Ben Bole, seconded by Anthony Boutard, to accept the minutes of the 2000 Annual Meeting as published. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** John Schroeder presented a financial report dated 1/25/01 as follows:

Jan. 25, 2001	1,604.28
Income	
Interest	70.46
Dues	<u>2,240.00</u>
Subtotal	2,310.46
Expenses	
Newsletter	673.21
Annual Registration	10.00
C.U. Fees	<u>10.00</u>
Subtotal	693.21
Funds On Hand 1/29/01	\$3,221.53

A motion was made by Ben Bole, seconded by Lee Williams to accept the treasurer's report as corrected. Motion passed. There was discussion about funding of the chestnut trees at the Lewis-Brown facility. Chris Foster said that there was no need for investment there since the trees are now being watered.

**Old Business:**

**Newsletter:** Carolyn Young reported that the newsletter is being produced for a little more than \$1.50 per issue plus \$1.00 for the membership directory per member. She thanked the ten members who have contributed to the content of the publication and mentioned that two of Anthony Boutard's articles have been reprinted in the Australian Nutgrower.

**Website:** Carolyn Young reported that we've had about 350 hits in the 5 months the site has been up and the numbers are growing as people become aware of it. The hits have come from 33 countries in addition to the U.S., with the most foreign hits coming from Australia.

**Grading Standards:** Steve Jones had plastic sizers made and offered them to the membership for \$8.00 per set.

There was discussion on standards changing depending upon what sizes/varieties a grower had. Another member suggested it was more logical to sell by variety than by size.

**New Business**

**Survey:** Chris Foster said that the results of the survey will be posted on the WCGA website. The survey will also be sent to those unable to attend the meeting. He will tally the survey.

**Events:** Steve Jones said that he'd like to see a committee to organize events. There was discussion about the kinds of events that might be of interest to members. A chestnut festival was suggested. Lin Roberge said she would help with such an event. Steve Jones said he would check into acquiring roasters that could be used.

**Logo:** One member said that having a chestnut festival or any other event without a logo would not promote the association. Anthony Boutard made a motion to engage a graphic artist to design a logo for the association with a fee not to exceed \$700.00. The motion was seconded by Sandy Bole. Motion passed. Sandy said she would contact the artist who did their logo and see what he might be able to do.

**Election:** Chris Foster, head of the Nominating Committee, reported that he had only a partial list of nominees. Two members volunteered to be candidates for the positions of Director leaving the position of President open. There was discussion about the bylaws limitations imposed restricting someone from serving more than 3 consecutive years on the Board of Directors. Ben Bole said he would volunteer to be a candidate for President, but had served 3 consecutive years. Ray Young suggested that a small change to the bylaws changing the "3 consecutive years" restriction to "3 consecutive years in one office" would resolve part of the problem. He went on to say that the bylaws call for each of the Directors to serve until their successors are elected **and** qualify, and that based on that Ben could be elected at the meeting and would

*Continued on next page*

*for the usage. The use does not sustain the definition particularly well. In both French and English, a chaplet also refers to a headpiece and rosary beads. It may be a French colloquialism Evelyn picked up in his youth, referring to a pan with holes in it, or a method of stringing nuts together for roasting them.*

*<sup>17</sup> Acorn-eater. "Go shake acorns from a tree," is an ancient Greek response to a beggar, according to Liddell and Scott's Greek-English Lexicon (Oxford). Βαλανος (balanos) is the Ancient Greek word for acorn, and the word is used in the bo-*

*tanical nomenclature for the subfamilies of the oaks. The chestnut is διοσ βαλανος (dios balanos), which means noble or princely acorn. The ancient Greeks also shared with their modern counterparts the word καστανο (kastano) for the sweet chestnut. This epithet is derived from Καστανεα, a place in Asia Minor. Prior to glaciation, chestnuts were found in Europe. The chestnut retreated to Asia Minor, and was reintroduced to Europe by the Greeks, hence the geographic reference in the name from which Castanea is derived.*

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qualify once a bylaws change could be approved. Ray Young moved and Sandy Bole seconded a motion to hold the election today which would allow Ben to be elected President and would allow him to assume the office upon a change of the bylaws. Motion passed. Ray Young moved and Sandy Bole seconded a motion to propose a bylaws amendment that would change the restriction from serving on the Board for more than three consecutive years, to serving more than three consecutive years in one office. Motion passed. Steve Jones agreed to call a special meeting for the purpose of voting on the proposed bylaws change. The election was held with unanimous approval of the following slate: Ben Bole, President; Chris Foster, Vice President; Secretary/Treasurer, Ray Young; Director, Scott Sloan; Director, Lee Williams; Director, Harvey Correia; Director, Bob Schilpzand.

**Adjournment:** Chris Foster moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Anthony Boutard. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
Ray Young, Secretary/Treasurer

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Florence Bauder, St. Helens, Oregon, grower, wrote to say that "Rudy went Home on March 8, 2001, ending his second bout with Lymphoma. He was so interested in growing the best Chestnuts, so we may have to continue his quest to find the very best and sweetest Chestnuts wherever we go. "



Below is the publisher of Chestnut Time, one of the Italian Chestnut cookbooks discussed in the last newsletter. I have a copy and really enjoyed reading the author's recollection of her times as a child in rural Italy. Each left page is in English and the right page is in Italian.

<http://www.lunet.it/aziende/mpfazzi/mpfazzen.htm>

Harvey Correia



### Western Chestnut Growers' Assn. Inc. Minutes of the Special Meeting

February 24, 2001 at Ridgefield, WA

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by the Vice-Pres., Chris Foster, at 6:00 p.m.

**New Business:** A motion was made by Anthony Boutard to adopt the proposed change in the bylaws put forth and discussed at the February 1, 2001 WCGA annual meeting. Anthony's motion was to accept the proposed amendment as published and mailed to all members of record as of February 1, 2001. The proposed change was to Article V, Section 1, last sentence, which reads, "No Director shall serve for more than three (3) consecutive years." The proposed change would read, "No Director shall serve for more than three (3) consecutive terms in one office." The motion was seconded by John Schroeder and passed unanimously.

**Adjournment:** The motion to adjourn was made by Carolyn Young and seconded by John Schroeder. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
Ray Young, Secretary/Treasurer

Visit the WCGA Website  
[www.ChestnutsOnLine.com/wcga](http://www.ChestnutsOnLine.com/wcga)

### Membership Application Western Chestnut Growers Assn., Inc.

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

Please print clearly:

Name(s) ..... Date of application .....  
Business Name .....  
Address .....  
City ..... State/Province .....  
Zip/Postal Code .....  
Phone ( ) ..... Fax ( ) .....  
Email: ..... Website URL .....

Variety	# of Acres	# of Trees	Yr Planted	Current Production	
_____					lbs
_____					lbs
_____					lbs
_____					lbs
_____					lbs
_____					lbs
_____					lbs

Photocopy this form.

Send this form with your check for \$20.00 per person made payable to Western Chestnut Growers Assn., Inc. to Ray Young, Secretary/Treasurer, PO Box 841, Ridgefield, WA 98642.