

Stamford Vermont Seed Savers Agenda 10/10:

- **Grant Report**

We now have a checking account at Greylock Federal Credit.

And, we have received a \$1,000 check from NEGEF.

Receipts for approved expenses should be submitted to Priscilla.

- **Wrapping up the Garden**

Pat, Sarah, Susan and Bill Levine built an additional garden bench with the available lumber.

There is still enough lumber to finish the next two garden beds.

It was agreed that we will have an additional workday on Saturday Oct. 21 from 12:00 to 2:00 pm. This will coincide with the Community Craft Fair/Book Sale. We should make a flyer and send out an e-mail announcement ASAP.

Heidi allegedly said that she could provide more compost. Larry's sister could possibly deliver a load as well.

- **Saving Seeds:**

The following individuals reported the results of their seed saving efforts.

Larry has a variety of bean seeds that he can offer.

Joe has seeds from Cherokee tomatoes and a variety of Pink Calendula.

Susan is rumored to have a successful succession of Blue Corn.

Stephen's Ancho Gigantea peppers did not grow true to form; some were the anticipated dark brown hot Poblanos, while others were sweet red peppers, and still others were small and green. It appears to have been a packaging problem at the Seed Savers Exchange. The Dwarf Scottish Kale grew well and will hopefully provide seed next year, if they survive the winter.

Members agreed to donate some of their unused open-pollinated seeds from this planting season to the SVSS collection at the town library.

- **Town Food Composting**

Based on conversations with BCRC Helen believes that there might be some money for building a compost building at the transfer station.

The town needs public education around food waste composting. We could create some simple educational brochures and survey forms to encourage food waste collection.

The impact of composting is what is important for people to understand.

Challenge: It is hard to get people to save food waste because it smells bad.

- **Off-season Activities and Ideas:**

Larry wants to look into making a demonstration of straw-bale gardening.

Joseph has agreed to work on carving the gateway logs.

Jane Potvin has suggested that SVSS organize educational classes during the off season. She could teach making of fire cider.

We could do some additional fermentation classes.

We could get town members to participate in a community food processing days.

Raising community knowledge about sustainability and common interests.

- **Additional News**

Helen was interviewed by a reporter working for the Deerfield Valley News for a story about the Seed Savers.

The school principle has started an agriculture committee and invited Helen to attend.

- **Positive Quotes from the Group:**

“We have made some excellent progress for our first year.”

“The best moments have been the workdays. They brought out a lot of community members out who might not otherwise have participated in community activities.”

“Having young adults show up and just start working and laughing , that was fun.”

“Everyone who is involved is so committed to community building, and that bodes well for the future of the group.”

- **Goal :**

We should write a report to the town to inform them of our progress and to thank them for their support. This would be incorporated in the Annual Town Report.

Next meeting Sat. the 21st at 12:00 pm.