

PUBLISHED BY
THE FLATHEAD LAKE
CHERRY GROWERS, INC

A MONTANA AGRICULTURAL
COOPERATIVE SINCE 1935

2018

IMPORTANT DATES

FLCG

Spring Grower Meeting
To Be Determined

Yellow Bay

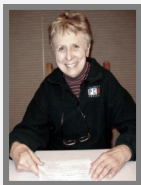
Cherry
Blossom Festival
To Be Determined

FLCG

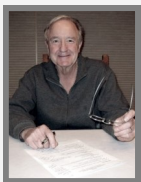
Pre-Harvest
Grower Meeting
To Be Determined

Polson

Main Street
Flathead Lake
Cherry Festival
To Be Determined



FLCG
Administrator
Barb Hammons



Editor /Publisher
Ken Edgington

The Flathead Lake Cherry Growers®

“Quickview Review”

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

4TH QUARTER 2017

From The President

Bruce Johnson



The Pest Management Area and Cherry Check-off Fee

You will soon be getting a letter from the Montana Department of Agriculture asking you to vote on whether to dissolve the Cherry Research and Development committee. Please take a few minutes to read my thoughts about the program and the Board of Directors' rationale to push the State to dissolve the committee.

In 2005 FLCG worked with the Lake County Commissioners to designate a Pest Management Area, PMA. The PMA is two miles wide and encircles Flathead Lake. The PMA designation dictates that cherry trees within the zone require treatment for fruit fly every year.

Finding fruit fly larvae in fresh cherries can stop harvest from infected orchards and preclude all shipments to states like California. Since enacting the PMA, fruit fly problems with coop members have all but ceased. However, it's not because the fruit fly is eradicated, it's because we are doing a good job of controlling it.

To make the PMA effective, an integrated approach was pursued including fruit fly education, feral tree removal, hiring a PMA inspector, and collaboration with Lake County on problem orchards. These efforts were funded by the cherry check-off fee. This fee was determined each year by the five members of the Cherry Research and Development committee and could be between ½ to 2 cents per pound. All growers who sold 200 pounds or more were required to pay this fee to the State.

(Continued On Next Page)

Monson Fruit has always paid this fee to the State for coop members who shipped fruit. That fee was added to Monson's charges for packing our fruit. So you, the grower, paid this fee. Over the years the coop's payment to the State averaged 80% of the total fees collected. An example is, if the coop ships 2 million pounds and the fee is set at ½ cent per pound, that equals \$10,000.

There have been non-coop members who have never paid into this program, including one of the largest orchards in the Flathead. The State has said they would take a more active role in the enforcement, but they have not.

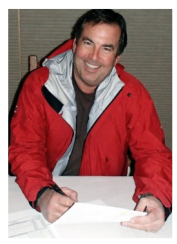
The coop has copies of the original documents with Lake and Flathead counties clearly showing the intent of the check off-fee was to fund the PMA. The current Cherry Research and Development committee has five members and is facilitated by the Montana Department of Ag. During the last two years, three of those committee members have refused to consider using the collected funds for the PMA and the state has allowed this to happen.

The coop still needs a PMA and in reality it's a benefit to all growers. We are currently working with Lake County to streamline the funding process for the PMA. Our proposal is to remove the check-off system; instead, the coop will directly fund the county at a fraction of our check-off fee cost. The State will no longer need to be involved and thus no need for the Cherry Research and Development committee. The existing system has become too complicated and ineffective. **Your Board of Directors recommends we simplify the process and vote to remove the Cherry Research and Development committee.**

Remember, you as coop members already pay into Northwest Cherries which is hugely involved in Research and Development. Your coop will continue to have spring education day and that will be available to all cherry growers.

If you would like more information please contact me or any of the Board of Directors.

Sincerely,
Bruce Johnson



I'm pleased to announce that Mike Bonner was recently named by the FLCG Board of Directors to fill the remaining vacancy created by the passing of director, Oliver Dupuis.

Important Note: For all of you who submitted photos you took this year for our 2017 FLCG Photo-Album, and expected to see them as part of this newsletter, I am happy to inform you that we received so many we have decided to publish the Photo Album as a separate publication. You will receive a **Quickcom** email shortly with the link taking you directly to the publication on our website where you can view it, save it to your hard drive, print it or forward it to a friend. It is a fairly large PDF file.

FLCG Website Seen Around The World

As of This Newsletter, FLCG's website has had visitors from the following 144 countries.

(Names in Red represent the top 10 countries providing the most visitors to our site)

Afganistan	Cambodia	Georgia	Kuwait	Pakistan	Sri Lanka
Albania	Cameroon	Germany	Latvia	Panama	St. Martin
Algeria	Canada	Greece	Laos	Papua N Guinea	Sudan
Angola	Cayman Islands	Grenada	Lebanon	Paraguay	Surinam
Argentina	Czechia	Guatemala	Lesotho	Peru	Sweden
Armenia	Czeck Republic	Herzegovina	Lithuania	Philippines	Switzerland
Aruba	Chile	Hungary	Luxembourg	Poland	Syria
Australia	China	Honduras	Macedonia	Portugal	Tajikistan
Austria	Columbia	Hong Kong	Malaysia	Puerto Rico	Tanzania
Azerbaijan	Croatia	Iceland	Maldives	Qatar	Taiwan
Bahamas	Costa Rico	India	Mauritius	Réunion	Thailand
Bangladesh	Curacao	Indonesia	Mexico	Romania	Trinidad/Tobago
Barbados	Cyprus	Iran	Moldova	Russia	Tunisia
Belarus	Denmark	Iraq	Mongolia	Rwanda	Turkey
Belgium	Djibouti	Ireland	Morocco	Saudi Arabia	Turks/Caicos Isl.
Belize	Dominican Rep	Israel	Mozambique	Serbia	Ukraine
Bolivia	Ecuador	Italy	Myamar	Singapore	U. A. Emirates
Bosnia	Egypt	Japan	Nepal	Slovakia	United Kingdom
Brazil	El Salvador	Jamaica	Netherlands	Slovenia	United States
British Virgin Isl.	Estonia	Jordan	New Zealand	South Africa	Uruguay
Bulgaria	France	Kazakhstan	Nicaragua	South Korea	Venezuela
Burma	French Guiana	Kyrgyzstan	Nigeria	Spain	Vietnam
Brunei	Finland	Kenya	Norway	St. Lucia	Zambia
Burundi	Gabon	Kosovo	Oman	South Africa	Zimbabwe

Test Your Montana Trivia

In 1865 what town became the territorial capitol of Montana?



Was It:
 Havre
 Helen
 Missoula
 Virginia City

FLATHEAD LAKE CHERRY GROWERS®
 A Montana Agricultural Cooperative (since 1935)

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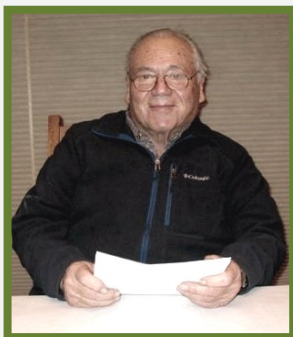
E-mail: hammons@centurytel.net

www.montanacherries.com

In Memory Of FLCG Member

Oliver Dupuis

May 25, 1930—September 5, 2017



Oliver was born May 25, 1930 in Polson, Montana, the only child of Peter and Ella Newgard Dupuis. He was hospitalized for a short time before entering Heaven's Gates to be with the LORD on September 5, 2017. His loving family was by his side during his final days.

Oliver was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather and is survived by his wife of 67 years, Lois Bras Dupuis. Together they had four children: Shiree (Ron) Ryan, Kendall (Linda) Dupuis, Randall (Brenda) Dupuis – all of Polson, Montana; and, Nola (Chris) Catlett of Kalispell.

Oliver's family also includes thirteen grandchildren: Kimberly and Tom Maloney; Scott Ryan; Chanel and Tim Lake; Anni and Brent Millard; Tyson and Andrea Dupuis; Danielle Valentine; Jayme Ryan; Daylen and Anna Dupuis;

Tyler Dupuis; Kym and Travis Jensen; Jessica Valentine; Steven and Alysha Valentine; and, Chance and Jessica Dupuis; and, 26 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his immediate family, he is survived by brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law: Donna Cason, Mary Lou Cross, Bud and Dot Bras, Clarence and Sally Bras, John and Jeanne Bras, all of their children; and, many Newgard and Dupuis cousins. He graduated from Hot Springs High School in 1950 where he had excelled in several sports activities. While in school, he also earned his private pilot license at the age of 15.

He was a member of the New Life Church in Polson and was active in the Saturday morning men's meetings, and served the Church as a member of the Board of Deacons until this past year.

Oliver was a member of the Salish Kootenai Confederated Tribes. Over the years he served on various Boards such as Farm Service Agency Board, St. Joseph Hospital, and the Boards for Salish/Kootenai Electronics and Technology. He was also active on the local Cherry Growers Association Board, and managed his own cherry and apple orchards.

Oliver started his life-long career in the lumber/sawmill industry as a young boy working at his father Pete's sawmill on Minesinger, Dupuis Brothers Lumber, that was later moved to Dog Lake where he worked through his teenage years. That mill was later moved to Polson. He helped build that mill which employed two to three hundred employees at times and it ran for many years before selling it to Pack River.

Oliver was also active in the sport of hydro boat racing where he and his father designed and built the boats and motors used in the racing competitions. During those years as a boat racer, Oliver was a National and World Champion, and tied the world record for Class C Service Hydros. He shared these adventures with his family, and his pit crew that included brother-in-laws Clarence, Bud, and John Bras, and cousin, Keith Clairmont, as they traveled the racing circuit from Southern California through several Western States.

His life was adventurous, productive and fruitful. In all his endeavors he excelled. He ran his businesses, cattle operation, farming and orchards to the very end of his life. His love for God and his exceptional work ethic and passion for life is the legacy he has passed on to his family and friends whom he truly loved.

A service was held at the New Life Church at 1414 Second Street in Polson, Montana at 2 p.m., September 9th. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations in Oliver's memory be made to the New Life Church or favorite charity of choice.

Messages of condolence may be sent to the family online at www.lakefuneralhomeandcremation.com.

Arrangements are under the care of The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory, Polson.