

VGPG Summer BBQ and Patch Tour 2014

10:00 AM Meet at Richmond Park and Ride (I89 Exit 11). Beautiful sunny day, 26 members attended the patch tours, 28 showed up for the BBQ.

10:30 AM First stop on tour was Kevin Companion's in Huntington.

Some huge pictures to be seen, growing 1482 Werner, 2009 Wallace, 1813 Northrup and 1676.5 Daletas. Later pollinations this year than usual but they were still pretty damn big!

11:30 AM Next stop was Terry & Jonas Keim's patch in Williston.

Both growing 1818.5 Bryson, both have two pumpkins per plant. Jonas had an early pollination (6/16) when they had no male flowers opened, a day after the female was open Jonas dissected a male flower (which hadn't opened yet) and "forced" a pollination on the main about 8' out.

They are also growing two 1508 Breznick plants which our being grown as "carvers"
They have something unique growing that will be brought to the CV Fair.

12:30 PM Last stop was John & Kerry Young's in Jericho.

They have three beauties growing, 809 Young, 1059 Vincent/McGill and 2009 Wallace, as well as giant tomatoes, long gourds, watermelon and field pumpkins. Looks like "Master Grower" in the making.

1:15 PM On to Dick & Ann Squires for BBQ and final patch tour.

What a treat, the Squires place is really a great place to be seen. Lots of plants, flowers and pumpkins!!! They started a new patch plot this year since last year they were fighting flash floods and boy have they done it right. They are growing 1188 Boyce, 1746.5 Lancaster and 1330.5 Keys (which is an absolute monster!).

Short business meeting, discussed:

Champlain Fair – August 22, 2014 - Thursday this year, pick up on Monday (labor day).
VGPGA WO – September 27, 2014 at Mazza's
Topsfield Fair – October 3, 2014

John Young mentioned that they are planning to go the RI for their weigh off this year if others were interested in caravanning down there.

Reminder that this is the final months of President Wilbur Horton's term and that a new president will be elected at the next Winter meeting. Also true for the position of Secretary currently held by Terry Keim. Any volunteers?

Before the BBQ broke up there was discussion regarding our VGPG weigh-off. It was decided to make a slight change to the rules. In order to be eligible for VGPG prize money a grower must be a registered member in good standing on or before September 1st. Previously new growers could become new members the day of the weigh-off, this is still allowed but they would not be eligible for VGPGA prize money, however they would still be eligible for any GPC prize money if they qualified for that.