

Candidates for Seattle Tilth's Board of Directors 2012
For the Election at the Annual Meeting, & Potluck
Wednesday, February 15, 6-8 p.m., 2012



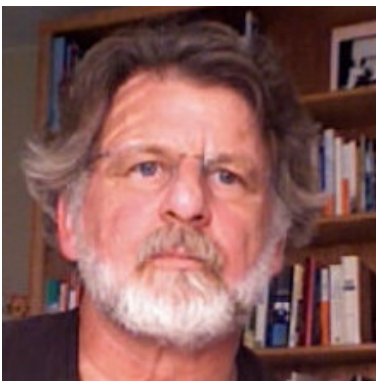
Cinnimin Avena (candidate for Board Vice President) is a native Washingtonian and hereditary conservationist. She learned the principles of organic gardening from her maternal grandparents and respectful land stewardship from her paternal grandfather. Cinnimin has a BA from The Evergreen State College and a MBA from The University of Arizona in MIS and Entrepreneurship. She's a certified ScrumMaster and enjoys applying her Agile development skills to software and social media projects. Before becoming a board member of Seattle Tilth, she sat on the Advisory Board of Seattle Youth Garden Works (SYGW) for 6 years. She is also a founder of the largest online school savings program in the United States. Cinnimin starts every planting season with the goal of growing enough tomatoes to support her habit. She has yet to fulfill that goal, but looks forward to the challenge this year. She also loves to travel, cook, and attend physical events that support non-profits and the Sounders.



Elizabeth Crouse (board candidate) brings a passion for eating, gardening, and improving access to good food to the board of Seattle Tilth. As a good eater, Elizabeth embraces the organic and locavore movements and supports local producers. And, as a stubborn gardener, Elizabeth has found a way to plant edibles in every place she has lived, no matter how tiny, shaded, or inhospitable the patio, lanai, or back stoop. Together, these passions drive Elizabeth's interest in and desire to help create access to good food in the most unlikely places, including urban food deserts. Professionally, Elizabeth brings to the board experience in the law of taxation and a bewildering devotion to all things numerical. She received her B.A. from Hawaii Pacific University, her M.A. from the University of Hawaii, and her law degrees from the University of Michigan and New York University.



Russ Goedde's (board candidate) earliest garden experience goes back to where he was raised, north-central New Jersey, and he still has the Planet Jr. hand plow (circa 1919) that he and his brother were sent out with each spring to start the vegetable garden. Russ lives in the Madrona neighborhood and gardens with his wife, growing both perennials and veggies and raising chickens (he took the Chickens 101 class a few years ago). Together, they have been working in their garden for about 30 years(!), raised 4 kids here, and now have grandkids enjoying it; a place which has long been a WA Certified Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary and a Pesticide Free Zone. Besides gardening and raising chickens and Mason bees, Russ enjoys making outdoor structures, like sheds, picnic tables, compost & worm bins for his yard and their kids' yards. Russ retired last year from King County government as an upper-level manager and currently teach graduate school courses within the Seattle University Institute of Public Service, and tutors reading at Madrona Elementary School. Russ is excited to see so many efforts in our community to develop urban farming and organic agriculture and food distribution networks, and that funding is available to encourage this growth. He looks forward to helping to ensure Seattle Tilth's continued growth, and building and sustaining a healthy environment in our urban community. *A garden is never finished.*



Amy Grooms (candidate for Board Treasurer) is a CPA and financial professional, whose passion for "getting things right" extends past numbers and into local food systems. Participating in the finance and audit committees of the Seattle Tilth Board is the perfect intersection of these two interests. In 2012, she looks forward to expanding her garden and possibly gaining a few chickens.



JJ Jacobi (renewing board candidate) started thinking that plants were fascinating, fun and often tasty when she was a teenager and was thrilled to really put all that together when she first took a class with Seattle Tilth in 2006. In addition to participating in Seattle Tilth's organic gardening and soil building programs, she was a garden intern for a couple of years and became a member of the Board in 2009. Working with the board and staff to build the capabilities of the organization through fundraising, events, strategic planning and governance has been very rewarding. Professionally, JJ works in software & technology with a degree in computer science, experience with management, and a dash of art & design. She has also served on, or worked directly with, non-profit boards for over 10 years in the areas of the environment, athletics, and art/design education. JJ enjoys working with Seattle Tilth because of the joyful learn-through-doing spirit that focuses on urban environmental stewardship to grow local, healthy, tasty and beautiful food everywhere it goes. Learn, Grow, Eat!



Beth Naczkowski (board candidate) started her interest in gardening in the red clay soils of Virginia as a young child. Even though her first gardens were less than an over-whelming success, she continued to garden in the sandy soils of California and the solid clay soils of the Pacific Northwest. She started volunteering with Seattle Tilth in 1999 and completed the Comprehensive Organic Gardener Program that year. She continues to volunteer at plant sales. Professionally, Beth works in software and technology as a Technical Training Director. She received her undergraduate degree in Environmental Planning from UC Santa Cruz and her MBA with an emphasis in Finance from Seattle University. She also served on a credit union board for more than 20 years. She looks forward to bringing her finance and technical expertise to the Seattle Tilth Board.



Tom Neir (board candidate) strongly supports the effort to bring local healthy, sustainability food and skills to our community. He has planted his first home garden, a huge learning experience, and plans to have an organic farm at some point down the road. He is a native of Kirkland and has worked and lived in a number of places across the US and internationally. He has a background in business with degrees from the University of Washington (Economics) and the University of Virginia (MBA). Tom has worked on a number of boards over the years and is currently a member of the Kirkland Transportation Commission. Tom has corporate experience in finance, sales, marketing, and planning, and is a proven entrepreneur who founded and grew a successful business in Hong Kong. Tom looks forward to applying his business and entrepreneurial skills to Tilth and helping the organization to continue to be a valuable catalyst for positive change in our community.



David Traylor (board candidate) gained his first appreciation of gardening through working in his mother's tomato garden and helping his father built the first of many geodesic dome greenhouses in Wisconsin. This early experience led to a degree in landscape architecture from the University of Michigan, certification as a Master Gardener by the Oregon County Extension Service and many years of tending vegetable and flower gardens around his house. David's involvement with Seattle Tilth has primarily been as an appreciative purchaser of starter and other plants at the countless plant sales he has attended since moving to Seattle in 1994. David has a busy and varied professional life as an artist whose work is shown around the country, as a landscape architect and as a full charge bookkeeper providing accounting services to a broad range of non-profit organizations, serving most recently as the business manager for the Seattle Parks Foundation. He has served on several non-profit boards including the Phinney Neighborhood Association, Operation Nightwatch, Fremont Abbey Art Center and the Seward Park Clay Center.



Liza Turley (candidate for Board President) lives in Fall City, is a dedicated year-round farmer's market shopper and avid cook, brings the perspective of rural organic gardening to Seattle Tilth. Liza joined the board in April 2007 while a student at the Foster MBA Program and has served on board committees including the Development Committee, as Chair of the Governance Committee and Strategic Planning and Compensation Task Forces. Professionally, Liza works as a senior project manager for a technology consulting firm and has a dozen years' experience working in the catering and special events business both in Seattle and Boston, MA.

