

The Leaflett

California Rare Fruit Growers - Central Coast Chapter Newsletter
Volume 8 • Issue 7 • July and August 2005



Summer Vacation Edition

Hi, Everyone! I'm in the middle of a very busy summer, so this edition of the newsletter is going to be short and for information only! For those of you receiving the hard copy newsletter, be sure to save it for meeting information for July and August. Hope you all have a great summer, too! Lennette Horton, Newsletter Editor

June Meeting

Minutes for CRFG Meeting held on June 11, 2005 at Farm Supply in San Luis Obispo, submitted by Rhonda Underwood, Secretary.

The meeting was called to order at ~1:30 pm by Bob Tullock. Bob welcomed visitors and new members, and encouraged all local members to join the state chapter if they have not already done so.

He briefly discussed the successful field trip to visit Walter Thoma and Steve Murray on May 14th, and then announced the tree planting organized by Joe Sabol to be held at the Children's Center on the Cal Poly Campus on June 14th.

Joe Sabol provided information on the tree planting: there would be 5 trees in 5-gallon containers to be planted, to begin at 10 am. See Joe for directions if needed.

Jeri Garbutt was presented with a CRFG hat for hosting the previous meeting at Camp Sticky Monkey.

Farm Supply will host the meeting scheduled for Saturday, October 29. There will be a pumpkin theme, spotlighting the giant pumpkins chapter members have grown.

Members should contact David Maislen for gopher traps and **also send him any reports due on the fertilizer study.**

Joe encouraged everyone to attend the Festival of Fruit to be held in Santa Cruz in September, especially since we've been asked to host the Festival in 2006 or 2007. According to Bob, last time we hosted the festival, about 70 members helped out to make it a very successful event.

Jim Braebeck from Farm Supply talked briefly about the history of the local Farm Supply businesses.

Joe Sabol and Jeri Garbutt introduced the guest speaker, Joe Decker. Joe gave a very informative presentation on drip irrigation. He included such topics as why we should install drip systems, the basic supplies for drip irrigation, how to choose the proper equipment for your needs, then gave

helpful hints and answered questions on installing systems. He also provided 10% off coupons for anyone interested in buying drip irrigation supplies at Farm Supply.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm, when we followed Joe into the store for more information on system hardware.

Are You Ready to Help?

Our chapter has been invited to host the CRFG Festival of Fruit in 2006. If we take on this awesome task, we'll need LOTS of help to put on a fine event. Let our board members know how YOU feel about hosting the event here and while you're at it, let them know what YOU could do to help! Contact information is at the end of this newsletter.

Announcements

What Fruit do You Grow? Beginning in September, I'd like to feature articles on the rare fruits some of our members cultivate. Do you grow an interesting fruit for fun or profit? Would you like to share your experience with others? If so, please give me a call so I can interview you. My phone number is 474-6501.

Welcome to Our Chapter: Greg Halfman, Paul Ogren, Rachel Rosenthal, Pete Herrlich, and Mary Matakovich.

Web Site: Check our site at: www.crfg-central.org to see what our web-master, Art DeKleine and his assistants, John and Choung Crowe and Pet and Marv Daniels are doing to keep us all informed.

Join the Parent Organization: Many of our chapter members are also members of the Parent association and, for those of you who aren't, perhaps you **should** consider joining. With parent organization membership you receive a wonderful color magazine, *The Fruit Gardener*, filled with great articles on fruit growing, news, many chapter activities and contacts. Dues are **\$30 annually** or **3 years for \$87**. Membership applications are available from **Joe Sabol**. Call him at **544-1056** if you can't find him at a meeting.

Calendar of Meetings – 2005

Meetings are held the **second Saturday** of the month and **begin at 1:30 PM** unless otherwise indicated. Bring a friend, car pool, and, for most meetings, **bring a chair** for all in your party. What fun it is to be a member of CRFG!

July 9—The Luffa Farm—Nipomo: We will visit the greenhouses and herb gardens of this fascinating "fruit" farm at **1457 Willow Road** in Nipomo. Thanks to Carol Scott for setting up this program! See their website at: <http://www.theluffafarm.biz/> **Refreshments: A - G please.**

Note from Joe Sabol: Have you joined our CRFG parent organization yet? If not, this may be a perfect time! At the Luffa Farm meeting on **July 9**, the first 10 people who write a check for \$30 and join CRFG will receive a Cherimoya tree in a five gallon container!!! These are not small baby seedlings! They are all at least 3 or 4 feet tall and they have been valued at \$25 to \$50 each!!! If you have been considering joining the State Association before the Festival in September, NOW is the time to write the \$30 check and be part of the group! If you are the first in line to join, you select the Cherimoya of your choice! They will be in the back of my Ford Ranger pick-up truck. If you do not know what a Cherimoya is--you are joining the right organization to learn!!!

Directions to the Luffa Farm in Nipomo--1457 Willow Road--From the **North**: take the 101 south and exit at Halcyon. Follow Halcyon until it ends at a stop sign at Highway 1. Turn left and then immediately right at the next stop sign. At the top of the hill, turn right at the stop light, which is Mesa View Drive for the next 3.3 miles when it again becomes Highway 1. Continue on Highway 1 for 1.9 miles, then turn left on Willow Rd. for 1.4 miles and you are there! From the **South**, take the 101 north and take the Tefft Street exit and go left on Tefft for .8 miles to the **second light past** the freeway, which is Pomeroy. Turn right on Pomeroy and go for 2.4 miles to Willow Road. Turn left on Willow for 1.1 mi. and you are there! Lost? **Call 343-0883.**

August 13—Jack and Mary Kay Sword’s Rare Fruit Orchard—582 Camino Caballo—Nipomo: We will visit the home and orchard of one of our chapter’s founders. The Sword’s orchard consists of a wide variety of “rare and exotic” fruits and nuts, and is a **MATURE** orchard. For instance, Jack has more than 60 macadamia trees! Thanks to Art Henzgen for suggesting the Sword’s orchard as a place for us all to learn. **Refreshments: H - R please.**

Directions to the Sword’s: North or South—Take the 101 to the Tefft Street off-ramp in Nipomo. Turn west (toward Von’s) on Tefft and go to the second light after the freeway which is Pomeroy. Turn right. Go three streets to Camino Caballo and turn **RIGHT**. Go all the way to the end of the street, make a turn in the cul-de-sac and then take the second gravel drive-way on the right. It is lined with pine trees. They are the last house on the right at the end of the drive-way.

September 8, 9, 10—CRFG Festival of Fruit—Santa Cruz area: This is the annual meeting of all chapters, a State Convention of CRFG! There will be no local meeting for the Central Coast in September. Let’s all plan to attend the Festival in Santa Cruz! Saturday is the big day! Watch the CRFG website for news and details: <http://www.crfg.org/>

October 8--Chris Chaney’s Wholesale Protea Nursery--Arroyo Grande: Mr. Chaney has well maintained Marion berries, raspberries, blackberries, blueberries and a greenhouse for pepino dulce and tomatoes. He also has grapes, kiwis, feijoas, lemon guava, and a mixed tree orchard with a unique system of netting. Oh, yes, and he has propagation houses and lots of **proteas**! He will sell us proteas on October 8 only. Thanks to Jenny Weaver and Carol Scott for setting up this meeting! **Refreshments: S - Z please.**

Central Coast Chapter CRFG Contact Information: Art DeKleine, co-chair, adeklein@calpoly.edu or 543-9455; Bob Tullock, co-chair, tullock@tcsn.net or 238-2868; Joe Sabol, program chair, jsabol@calpoly.edu or 544-1056; Dick Pottratz, treasurer, pottratz@sbcglobal.net; or Lennette Horton, newsletter editor, handynana@gmail.com or 474-6501.