

The Leaflet



California Rare Fruit Growers – Central Coast Chapter – Vol. 18 Issue 5– Nov/Dec 2015

NOVEMBER AT THE CASTLE

The November 12th meeting will take place at Hearst Castle. This meeting is by reservation only and is sold out. Pat Moudakis has volunteered to report on the trip. An update will follow in the Jan/Feb issue for those of us that were not able to make the trip.

Les Ferriera held a faux rock workshop at his house on Friday, November 5. Sixteen chapter members were in attendance. Les instructed us on the fine details of creating faux rock plant stands. We had a great time playing in the “mud”.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Our annual Holiday meeting will be held on Saturday, December 12 at the PG&E facility on Ontario DR. off of 101 at San Luis Bay Dr. This will be a pot luck holiday feast.

Thanks to Marv Daniels for making the arrangements.

LOOKING BACK

The September chapter meeting was held at San Luis Obispo Botanical Gardens. Several chapter members gave informative talks on their experiences growing fruit on the Central Coast.

The October meeting was an encore event at the home of Les Ferriera. Les gave a tour of his home orchard that includes an incredible Koi pond and an amazing Bonsai collection.

This event was also a special day for three Cal Poly students who received a total of \$3000 in scholarship awards from our chapter.



PHOTO BY RON BLAKEY

Cal Poly scholarship recipients pictured with Dr. Lauren Gardener (seated), Sally Requa and Les Ferriera

A Little History and a Big Ask

Nell Wade

Those that are receiving this newsletter are already members of the Central Coast Chapter of the CRFG (CA Rare Fruit Growers). Many of you are also members of the "State" organization. We should all belong to the State Organization, The CRFG. This group puts out the wonderful magazine, Fruit Gardener 6 times a year (\$36 via mail and \$26 sent electronically). We also have a yearly gathering called the Festival of Fruit. In 2016 our chapter will be putting on that "Festival", as we've done in 2006 and 1996.

The Festival is usually a multi-day event, which usually includes many garden tours, meals, a day of education, as well as getting together socially. The host chapter also decides what the "Fruit" or "year of ..." will be. The planning group collectively decided that 2016 will be the "year of Edible Landscaping – from Apples to Zapotes", thereby satisfying fruit growers and landscapers alike. Our 'festival' will run from Friday August 26th through Sunday August 28th. What has been decided so far is that we will have several tours on Friday and Sunday, with a social reception Friday evening. Our day of education is Saturday and at Cal Poly. It will start with our keynote speaker, Rosalind Creasy, edible landscaper, photographer, author and speaker extraordinaire. There will also be many breakout sessions, a vendor fair, and will end with a sit down dinner, site still to be determined.

As you can imagine, putting on a multi-day event for hundreds of people is a daunting task. However, it can also be an amazing party with an 'all hands on deck' attitude. Like the old quilting bees or barn raisings, having lots of people working together can not only accomplish great things, but also can be a community builder and a fun activity.

If you're interested in helping out the planning of this event, please attend our next planning session, which are held on the first Tuesday of every month (Dec. 7th next month) at the SLO Grange on Broad St at 5:30. There's a farmer's market happening there from 3 - 6, so come early and buy some local produce and get to know your farmer/beekeeper/baker. If you'd rather be a 'worker bee' during the event, please email me at nellcentralcoast@gmail.com. We welcome you at any level of commitment, as we understand everyone has their strengths and we need your strengths. So, let's get together and show the other chapters

an educational – and fun – time. Let's be gracious hosts and put on a great party!!! Thanks!!! -Nell Wade-

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER

Dear participants in the Central Coast Chapter of CRFG:

We used to call them 'dues' and then called them 'newsletter subscriptions'. At any rate, 'something' is due as of the first of 2016 because according to my records you are in 'good standing' with our group through December 2015.

So, if you are inclined to remain in good standing, please send me a check. It shouldn't cause much damage to your budget because we are a pretty inexpensive outfit: **\$6 for one year and \$25 for five years**. Since I'm not looking for extra work I encourage you to save a dollar a year and spring for the \$25/five year rate. That saves me work (and saves you \$5 + four stamps at about 50 cents each).

Make your check to:
Central Coast Chapter of CRFG
c/o Dick Pottratz
2430 Leona Avenue
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

If you've forgotten that you joined this group, the upcoming Dec, Jan, Feb meetings are always exceptionally good ones so you might want to start attending again. **If you decide to not send me a check** and not reup for a year or five, then please **send me an email now and I'll stop asking you to pay up!**

Dick Pottratz
Underpaid treasurer, CCC of CRFG