



The Leaflett

California Rare Fruit Growers - Central Coast Chapter



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More Stuff About Bananas Than You Really Ever Wanted to Know

By Scott Flanders

Have you had your banana today? The average American consumes 28-30 pounds of bananas each year. So, how do you take your banana? Here is a list of banana recipe names from the World Wide Web...

Avocado Banana Salsa - *Avocado &*

Banana? . . . Banana and Ricotta Pizza

with Ham - *Pizza and Bananas? . . .*

Banana Beer - *Remember that for the next*

superbowl!... Banana Bread - *Abh, the classic... Banana Cream Pie* - *Yum, Suddenly I'm hungry!...*

Banana Daiquiri - *Hmmm...*

Banana Liqueur - *Hmmm-Hmmm! Honey*

you're driving tonight!... Banana Muffins -

With Banana Butter, I Presume?... Banana

Pancakes - *Good start to the day... Banana*

Smoothies - *Banana, you old smoothie, you!...*

Banana Splits - *Afterward, I start the banana*

diet... Chocolate Covered Frozen

Bananas - *See Banana Splits... Fried*

Bananas - *Why?... Peanut Butter and*

Banana Sandwich - *If it was good enough for*

Ehvis... Poached Eggs with Tomato and

Banana - *I can't get past the poached eggs.*

Did one bananastatic name grab your attention? Then off to the Internet with your bad banana self and using your favorite search engine, type in the name and do a search. You'll be sure to find

more recipes than you ever thought possible. But wait, there's more...you can actually go bananas on the Web! Did you know people collect and trade Banana Sticker Labels? Even on E-Bay? How about a listing of rock bands with "banana" in their name? The Banana Blenders, Banana Fish Zero(?) More exciting sites that talk fanatically about everyone's favorite fruit: Bananas on the Web, Stuck on Bananas, Becky's Gone Bananas..and Broccoli too, Just Fruit Recipes-Banana..and don't forget to visit the online **Banana Museum:** www.geocities.com/NapaValley/1799/. Each site is guaranteed to satisfy the banana fanatic in all of us.

Recent Happenings

January Monthly Meeting Cal Poly Crops Unit

Business: Elections were held and the results appear in the Chapter Officer listing at the top of this newsletter. A new position of Photographer was created but all members are encouraged to take pictures. Thanks go to **Joe Sabol** who volunteered his enthusiastic talents as Program Chair and to outgoing Secretary **Doris Henzgen** for her many years of dedicated service.

Announcements were made about upcoming events and **Dr. Robert McNeil** introduced Cal Poly students

who were assisting with the fruit and plant sale. Thanks to the attendance of our group the Cal Poly students took in record profits from the sale for their ag group. They send thanks to all Central Coast members who came and bought!

Community Orchard Pruning: For those who have never been to our community orchard... planted in 1999, it is located on the Cal Poly campus across from the Crops Unit Building. Over 65 members contributed trees of various varieties. Everyone is welcome to visit and pull weeds to their heart's desire. This meeting was dedicated to pruning the many trees in our orchard under the direction of Dr. Robert McNeil. We all got out our clippers and pruners and learned the proper way to prune different kinds of trees for maximum fruit production. Many thanks to Dr. McNeil and his student assistants for this valuable information.

February Monthly Meeting Grafting Party -Joe Sabol's

WOW! We had by count 127 attendees to this exciting event. Rootstock was purchased, scion wood by the dozen was exchanged and grafting demonstrations and assistance were available from **Dr. Howard Brown**, former Cal Poly Dean of Agriculture and Hort. Dept. Head and **Gene Santos**, a SLO native who has grafted for 40 years. Visitors from other chapters attended along with **Norm**

Beard past President of the CRFG State Organization who said a few words about the organization and passed on information about the Festival of Fruit event scheduled to be held in Santa Barbara on August 10th.

Speaker: Andy Mariani, owner of Mariani Orchards was our guest speaker. Andy is extremely knowledgeable in grafting techniques and spent almost an hour speaking and answering questions on topics too numerous to mention. Thanks Andy!

Upcoming Events. . .

March Meeting **March 16th at 1:30 p.m.** **Linda Seely - Atascadero**

We are going back to the red apricot tree we pruned last year for additional work. (See Jan/Feb newsletter)

Directions: 7025 Sycamore Road. From Hwy 101, take the Cubaril exit east to Sycamore. Turn left and drive about 1/4 mile. The property is on the right (no house).

Bring: Chairs, warm clothes and rain gear. Refreshments: Group 3 (R-Z).

April Meeting

Unfortunately, plans for the April meeting were not finalized by the publication of this newsletter. Details will be announced at the March 16th meeting in Atascadero.

For the April Meeting Bring: Chairs and comfortable walking shoes.

Refreshments: Group 1 (A-H).

Board Meeting **March 9th at 1:30 p.m.** **Cal Poly Crops Unit Room 241**

Everyone is welcome! Come and help decide the future of our chapter. Bring yourselves and your ideas.

Directions: Located on the Cal Poly Campus, Room 241 of the old Agricultural Building (next to Joe Sabol's office). Parking is free on weekends.

Announcements

Volunteers Needed: The Growing Grounds Organization is looking for volunteers to work along side adults with mental disabilities planting, harvesting and working in field and nursery environments. Volunteers are also needed to prune fruit trees and help with irrigation projects. Interested members can contact Jennifer or Carol at 543-6071 or visit the organization at, 3740 Orcutt Road M-F , 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Mariani Orchards: Members who missed purchasing Andy's "Fruit Varieties" booklet (\$8.50), would like a price list, or just want to come visit his orchards contact: Mariani Orchards, 1615 Half Road, Morgan Hill, CA 95037 (408) 779-5467.

Technical Difficulties: Our Webmaster's computer caught a virus and


went to the hospital Art says it doesn't look good. Therefore, there will be some delay in the updates to our Website.

Get Our Newsletter by E-Mail: If you have Acrobat Reader or Word and would like to have the newsletter sent electronically, send an E-mail to: slpir@yahoo.com. Postage is going up soon; save the Chapter some money.

✓ Reminders

A member was involved in an automobile accident on the way to the February meeting. Please use extra care when commuting to meetings. This is a small chapter and we all care about each other.

From the Treasurer: If you have not paid your 2002 dues and wish to continue as a member, please send a check. \$6 for one year, \$25 for five years.



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