

The Leaflett

California Rare Fruit Growers - Central Coast Chapter Newsletter
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2006 – The Year of the Healthful Grape



Red, White, or Blue? Which Grape is for You?

Coming in September is a chance of a lifetime for **you**—that is, if you are interested in trying out a new grape variety in your home garden! At the **Festival of Fruit** that our chapter is hosting from September 5-9, the cuttings will be given away! Yes, that is true. They will be FREE to registered event attendees. Will you be one of them?



On June 4, there were 21 volunteers who showed up to pot literally hundreds of grape cuttings that Bob Tullock had been nurturing since January/February. The root growth was amazing, and so was the variety of grapes represented--each one well suited to the home garden in our area.

The old adage, “Many hands make light work,” was certainly true that day as 21 people showed up to prune, pot, and place all of the cuttings. These volunteers, (shown in the photo on the left except for Joe Sabol,

the photographer, and Marv and Pet Daniels, who arrived after the photo was taken) were: Joe Sabol, Lennette and Bernie Horton, Evelyn Ruehr, Jaleah Brynn, Patti Schober, Chuck and Dolores Rody, Jack Swords, Bob and Nancy Asbell, Dan Asbell, D. P. Paranjpe, Owen Baynham, Phil Yoshida, Kristin Poochigian, Rachel Rosenthal, Larry Hollis, Liesa Rego, Jerie Garbutt (and her dog, Jody), Bob Tullock, and Paul Janetski. (The volunteers are not named in photo order!)

June Meeting

Hot dog aficionados were in their element at the June meeting which was held at the Wildwood subdivision clubhouse in Arroyo Grande. Getting TO the site was a little tricky, but it was worth the effort. Hosts of the meeting were George and Jane Roach and they graciously fed all the hungry people shown in the photo below, which was taken by Paul Moyer.



After a delicious meal and a fun time of socializing, the afternoon's events got underway. Larry Hollis had donated 53 assorted plants and these were raffled by Marv Daniels with assistance from Choung Crowe, during a very different kind of "drawing" that raised \$79 for our chapter coffers. What kind of raffle was it? If you weren't in attendance, look carefully at the photo below and to the right (taken by Ron Blakey) and see if you can figure it out!

After a brief business meeting, everyone grabbed their hand-pruners and headed off to the community orchard that was planted and is maintained by the Wildwood community. The orchard had been freshly mowed, so it was easy to walk among the trees and discuss them. Summer pruning was the key subject matter. All in attendance agreed it was one of the most enjoyable meetings ever. Thanks to everyone who helped make it that way—and especially to George and Jane!



Festival of Fruit 2006

This event promises to be spectacular! If you have access to a computer, visit our website for the latest updates on events and speakers: http://www.crfg-central.org/2006_Festival/festival_2006_home.htm. As of 3:45 PM on Tuesday, June 1, 637 people had already accessed the Festival information page. Art DeKleine and his assistants, John and Choung Crowe, Evelyn Ruehr, Pet and Marv Daniels, Dick Pottratz, and Bob Tullock have done an incredible job on getting that site up and running. It isn't too late to join in the planning meeting to be held at the **Pismo Prime Outlet on Tuesday, July 11, from 5 pm to 8 pm.**

Announcements

Welcome to Our New Chapter Colleagues: Russee J. Parvin and Doctor Saturnino.

Join the Parent Organization: Many of our chapter colleagues are 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.

Free SPREADING Bamboo: Jenny Weaver says: "I have approximately 40' long x 2' wide x 8' tall of spreading bamboo in my yard that I want removed. You will LOVE it if you plant it in a restricting container. I have a love-hate relationship with it! I love its color and the screen that it provides. I hate that it pops up 20' away in paths and other garden beds. It can't be put in the green waste because it is "uncompostable". It's YOURS for FREE! You just have to dig it up and haul it away! Call Jenny Weaver, cell (805) 440-0366 for arrangements."

Calendar of Meetings – 2006

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. Pet Daniels suggests we bring our own bottled water to drink, too. What fun it is to be a member of CRFG!

July 8—The Nurses' Pistachio Orchard—Creston/Paso Robles: Three nurses own and operate this fascinating orchard with 2,200 organically farmed pistachio trees! Bring chairs and wear a hat and plenty of sunscreen. Bring your bottled water, too! This is **JULY** in Paso Robles! It is generally **HOT!** But we don't mind—there are no wimps in CRFG—just well prepared enthusiasts. Please follow the directions below very carefully. Meeting will begin at normal time of 1:30 PM. **Refreshments will be provided by the A through G team.**

Directions to the July Meeting: From the south, go north on 101 towards Paso Robles. Exit at Spring Street, the first exit in Paso Robles. At the light, turn right on Niblick Road and go over the bridge. (Look for water in the Salinas River.) Keep going on Niblick until you come to Creston Road. Go right on Creston. You will pass Neal Springs and So. El Pomar. Turn left on Stage Coach Road. Continue on Stage Coach Road until you see High Ridge Road and then turn left. Stay on High Ridge Road until you see the last house on the left. That will be **5565 High Ridge Road**. If you find yourself in trouble--call Cecilia Garcia at 227-0740. Car pool and save on fuel and enjoy each other's company. What fun it is to be a member of CRFG. Only \$30 today!

NOTE FROM JOE: Do not use the internet map programs to find the NPO location. They send you down Pennman Springs Road. You will NEVER find 5565 High Ridge Road if you use the various map programs on the internet. I think the Pennman Springs Road is the same one some of us took to get to Pixley last month!!

August 12—Dave Wilson Fruit Tasting—Cal Poly: This has been a **wildly** popular event that we weren't able to host in 2005. (Yes, I **do** mean "wildly". Have you ever seen fruit enthusiasts high on fructose?) Note that this is less than one month before we host the Festival of Fruit. **Your** assistance is not only requested, it is **NEEDED!** No business meeting and no refreshments necessary—we'll be slicing and serving lots of delicious fruit. **This event is open to the public.**

September 5-9—Festival of Fruit—All CRFG Chapters in the state are coming! Save the dates. Official meeting starts at 1 PM on Friday, September 8 in the Chumash Auditorium on the Cal Poly Campus. We host a BBQ that evening, then workshops and speakers all day Saturday, September 9. Be there and join the fun! We will not have a "local meeting" this month—we'll be too busy with Festival planning, conducting, and cleaning up! We need your help Thursday, Friday and Saturday, please!!

Have a Happy 4th of July!

Eat lots of fruit!

Make this easy, patriotic, and fruitful cake to celebrate. Just bake a cake in an 11x14 pan using your favorite mix (any flavor) and frost with white frosting, whipped cream, or whipped topping. Arrange fresh, washed and dried blueberries and strawberries as shown in the photo below.



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.

