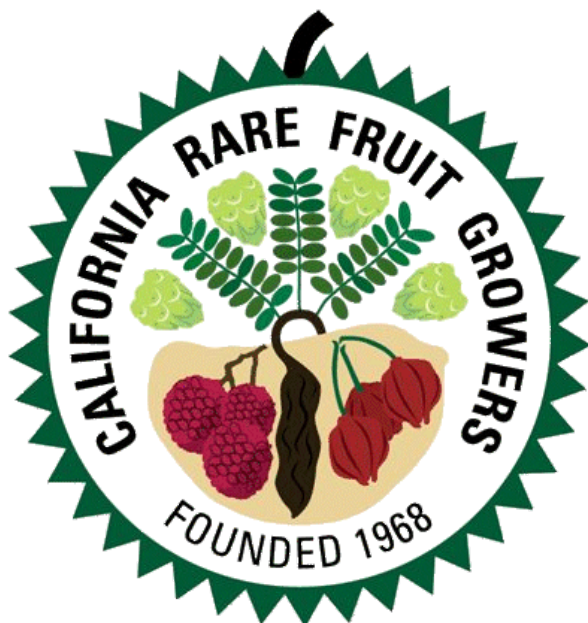


CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

JANUARY 2006 NEWSLETTER



*NEXT MEETING is **JANUARY 26***

Our January meeting is the Scion Exchange and elections. I'm sure that we can arrange for anyone to run for any office. As it is, the incumbents are standing for all offices, with two exceptions. The position of secretary and newsletter editor and publisher have no one running for them. This is your chance.

I'd like to thank Linnea for serving as Secretary. She has had a good run at it and wishes to retire. As to the newsletter editor/publisher job, Zhenxing has been doing this one since forever. We need to express our thanks for this and give her a rest. Someone else should step up. I've chatted with a few dynamic people about the possibility of taking this over. I hope to see them at our next meeting.

And our next meeting is a good one, one we look forward to all year. Yes it is the **SCION EXCHANGE**. This event is like the beginning of our season, our springtime. After the long San Diego winter (aka the week between Christmas and New Years), things get percolating again with the scion exchange. Remember, if you are bringing in material, the standard is for the angle cut end to point upward. Please make a note of it if your cuttings face opposite. Also remember, buds are on the upper side of the nodes. So all is not lost if the cuttings aren't marked.

Speaking of Scion Exchanges, the Orange County Chapter exchange is one of the great ones. Saturday, September 28th

morning CRFG members from all over SoCal will be entrenched in the Millennium Barn hunting for those special cultivars. All members are encouraged to bring scion cuttings but even without, everyone is welcome. These are the details:

- * 10 am to noon in the Millennium Barn of Orange County Fair Grounds.
- * Enter Gate 5 (off Arlington St.) for parking
- * Those bringing scion wood should arrive by 9:00
- * Please take no more than TWO of any variety
- * Bring lots of goodies- homemades are the best. The club will provide hot water, coffee, cocoa and juice along with some rolls.

Another exciting event upcoming is the California Cherimoya Association annual meeting this year on February 18, 2006 at the University of California South Coast Research & Extension Center 7601 Irvine Blvd., Irvine, CA. 10 AM to 3PM. A copy of the registration sheet is attached. Pruning Expert Eph Konigsberg, Karen Firestein of the USDA Cooperative Center, UC Cooperative Extension Tropical Fruit Specialist Dr. Gary Bender and Scott Van Der Kar of Pine Hill Ranch in Carpinteria will all speak. There will also be a team of grower specialists in cherimoyas to answer questions. Our Event will include a tour of the Cherimoya Collection at the University of California South Coast Field Station. The 2006 Budwood program is available to members and non-members alike by registering prior to February 8, 2006 and designating your cultivar choices. Grafted Cherimoya Trees in nursery liners are available for sale and will be available to everyone but will be offered first to Association members. A delicious Hawaiian barbecue lunch is available to those who register by February 8, 2006. (Note: This is a very worthwhile event for Cherimoya enthusiasts. The lunch is great as is the opportunity to taste various cultivars.)

And from CRFG friend and supporter, Nan Serman, I pass this along about her new gardening show on TV and website.

Show is **A Growing Passion on KPBS**, channel 15/cable 11. A Growing Passion is all about passionate gardeners and their gardens. In each episode Nan introduces viewers to some of her absolutely favorite gardens. She meets their owners, many of whom are also responsible for creating and maintaining these amazing gardens. These are ordinary people who happen to be extraordinary gardeners. They talk about how their gardens got started, the help they have gotten along the way, what they give to their gardens and what the gardens give back. The first episode ran in late December for those of us lucky enough to catch it. Look for more information at <http://www.agrowingpassion.com/>.

CALENDAR == YEAR OF THE APPLE

Month	Meeting Topic	Event(s) For the Month
JANUARY 26, 2006	SCION EXCHANGE	
FEBRUARY 24 FRIDAY – ROOM 104	FRUIT TREE PROPAGATION – Grafting, Budding and Air Layering.	
MARCH 23	Main Topic: EFFECTIVE SOILS FOR CONTAINER GROWN TREES. Brief Topic: CHERIMOYA POLLINATION	
APRIL 28 FRIDAY – ROOM 104	THE LOQUAT	Green Scene
MAY 25	THE AVOCADO	
JUNE 22	CITRUS	WINE TASTING (Let's justify the insurance we're paying for.)
JULY 27	GRAPES	GARDEN TOURS
AUGUST 24	EXOTIC FRUIT ICE CREAMS. We will be tasting wonderful fruit ice creams from South of the Border (the Mexico/U.S. border)	
SEPTEMBER 29 FRIDAY – ROOM 104	MANGOES, discussion of varieties culture and lore followed by Mangos and Ice Cream.	PLANT SALE DAY IS IN FLUX
OCTOBER 26	POMEGRANATES. Discussion of varieties, culture and lore of this fruit, followed by tasting of some unusual varieties.	
NOVEMBER 17 FRIDAY – RM 104	WINTER PRUNING OF DECIDUOUS FRUIT TREES.	
DECEMBER 15 FRIDAY	HOLIDAY PARTY AND GIFT EXCHANGE.	

NEXT Meeting: Scion Exchange

WHERE: Casa del Prado Building Room 101, Balboa Park

WHEN: January 26, 2006 7:00 p.m.