



## California Rare Fruit Growers San Diego Chapter Newsletter

**Thursday, September 27, 2007**

**General Meeting: 7:00 – 7:30 pm**

**Program: 7:40 pm – 8:30 pm**

**Opportunity Drawing: 8:45 pm**

*The Year of the Mango*

Website: [crfgsandiego.org](http://crfgsandiego.org)

**Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 152943  
San Diego CA 92195-2943

**Meeting Place**

Rm. 104, Casa del Prado,  
Balboa Park, San Diego CA

### 2007 Elected Officers

**Chair: Jose M. Gallego**  
Membership Chair  
[chair@crfgsandiego.org](mailto:chair@crfgsandiego.org)  
619/697-4417

**Vice-Chair: Mike McCright**  
vice-chair@crfgsandiego.org  
760/749-3538

**Treasurer: Zhenxing Fu**  
[treasurer@crfgsandiego.org](mailto:treasurer@crfgsandiego.org)

**Secretary: Barbara Alvarez**  
[secretary@crfgsandiego.org](mailto:secretary@crfgsandiego.org)

**Immediate Past Chair**

**David Silverstein**  
[formerchair@crfgsandiego.org](mailto:formerchair@crfgsandiego.org)

### 2007 Appointed Positions

**Greeter: June Andersen**

**Librarian: Oscar Butler**  
[librarian@crfgsandiego.org](mailto:librarian@crfgsandiego.org)

**Facilities Coordinator**  
**Barry Resetco** 858/278-3732  
[javaman@crfgsandiego.org](mailto:javaman@crfgsandiego.org)

**Newsletter Editor: Cielo**  
[editor@crfgsandiego.org](mailto:editor@crfgsandiego.org)

**Webmaster: Jose M. Gallego**  
[webmaster@crfgsandiego.org](mailto:webmaster@crfgsandiego.org)

### Program: Fig Cultivars for San Diego County

Chapter member Jon Verdick will present the program on best fig cultivars grown

#### FROM "EL PRESIDENTE"

Our August meeting was great! I want to thank **David Archer** for getting us all the mangos we enjoyed that evening, unfortunately he was not able to attend, but **Jim Neitzel** made sure we had a great time and volunteers to bring all the boxes of mangos. A big thank you to **Zhenxing** for bringing the ice cream. Thanks gang!

At our last meeting we recognized all of our volunteers (see our long list in this newsletter). If you were a volunteer and were you not able to attend, we have a Certificate of Appreciation for you. Please see me or Mike at our September meeting.

#### Chapter Monthly Meeting Change to Wednesday in 2009

This is the most important issue that has been on our table for the last couple of months. At our last meeting I mentioned that we are being asked to move our meetings to Wednesday nights instead of Thursday nights which has been our Chapter's meeting nights since the early 80's.

This request has been discussed in detail by our contact Bob Hodges of the San Diego Botanical Society. His suggestion is to change it to Wednesday so that our regular meetings are not changed from one room to another. As you all may know, we get bounced between Rooms 101 and 104 whenever another group needs Room 101 for their Friday or weekend events. This has caused confusion with our members and with the people at the City Park and Recreation (who set up the room for us every month). Since this is a major change in the operation of the Chapter and it is a suggestion from San Diego Botanical Society, a membership vote is required.

There are several benefits to our Chapter in making this change, one, will not be bounced around and most importantly, the likelihood of having major events on Wednesday night is low; therefore, there will be more parking spaces for us.

At our September meeting, members present will be asked to vote for this change. We would like to thank Bob Hodges for his incredible patience in getting this proposal finalized, THANKS BOB!!

#### Program Presentation on Figs

If you miss Jon Verdick's presentation at the Festival of Fruit, this is your opportunity to, as quoted from the Festival of Fruit Program Description, "learn the fundamentals of figs, their propagation, their care, and enjoyment. Learn how to use the literature and resources that are available on the internet to enable you to enjoy a wealth of non-commercial varieties of figs. Includes an extensive syllabus to help make you an independent fig adventurer."

El Presidente (continued)

Jon has quite a large experience and passion for figs and bananas and it shows during his presentations. He has over 300 different varieties, the largest private collection of fig in the world, this should tell you something!

See you at the meeting!

El Presidente, José



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Following our Chapter's Standard Operating Procedure and Rules, September is the month Chapter members volunteer to create the Nominating Committee. Our Vice-Chair, **Mike McCright**, will be organizing this committee. From our SOP&R:

### Article V. Committees

#### Section 2. Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least four persons from the general membership. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the November meeting." The objective of this committee is to encourage participation from the membership to actively participate in the planning, organizing and leading of our Chapter.

#### Section 2. Duties

Vice Chair: The Vice Chair shall initiate the Nominating committee. He/she shall initiate the creation of the Nominating Committee prior to the October monthly meeting for the purpose of developing a slate of proposed candidates for the October nominations and November elections. The Vice Chair will make a call from the floor at the September meeting looking for volunteers for the Nominations committee. No member from the Executive Committee shall be a member of the Nominating Committee.



## FESTIVAL OF FRUIT - THANKS!!!

by José Gallego

Thanks to everyone who helped make this Festival the best ever for both North County and San Diego Chapter. Certificates of appreciation were handed out at the August meeting.

### Speakers:

**Barbara Baer, Ben Poirier, Dario Grossburger, David A. Karp, Doron Kletter, Ed Stover, Ed Valdivia, Gary Matsuoka, Jon Verdick, José Miguel Gallego, Julie Frink, Leo Manuel, Linden Anderson, Richard Campbell, Roger Meyer, Ron Hurov, Tom Spellman**

### Volunteers:

**Aaron St. John, Alan Snavely, Alice Snow, Anna Krones, Arlene Moskowitz, Art Logan, Barbara Alvarez, Barbara Nichan, Barry Resetco,**

**Ben Pierce, Carl Hansen, Carol Graham. Cielo Foth, Cindy Ciolli, Cindy Hansen, Dan Kinnard, David Archer, David Brown, David Long, David Yetz, David Silverstein, Devon Sugmod, Dick Snow, Dottie Logan, Dr Skip Vint, Ed Hamilton, Eloise Lau, Frank Habetler, George Krepak, Harry Nickerson, Irene Krepak, Irene Sias, Jack Skeels, Jackie Nickerson, Jesse Prothro, Jim Bathgate, Jim Ciolli, Jim Neitzel, Jim Rockoff, Joel Moskowitz, John Sanderson, José Miguel Gallego, Joy Bladykas, June Andersen, Keith Harold, Kevin Foth, Linda Vint, Mac Persaud, Marc Simpson, Mark Bendixen, Mark Krones, Matt Jurlina, Mike McCright, Mike Metzger, Mr Mellein, Mrs John Mellein, Nancy Mueller, Neil Poppendiek, Nevin Kleege, Oscar E. Butler, Paul Fisher, Peter Hofman, Rod Krause, Rolf Dethlefsen, Sally Sanderson, Sally Willows, Sonja Longley, Steve Pruyn, Sue Persaud, Theresa Handinero, Toan Humphrey, Tom del Hotal, Tony Blazing, Tony Thomas, William Homyak, William Longley and Zhenxing Fu**



## SECRETARY'S REPORT

By Barb Alvarez, Secretary

### At the July 26th Meeting

**Jim Bathgate** of the North County Chapter gave the program for July 26th on Low Chill Stone Fruit.

Here are just a few tidbits that I wrote from his program. The 'Lapins' cherry is low chill, (this cultivar even produced for Joy who lives 3 blocks from the beach). Jim gave us a list of stone fruit that he has observed. He did not include those which he has experienced as inferior. Some of Jim's favorites: Apples: 'Anna', 'Gordon', 'Yellow Delicious', 'Fuji' and 'Granny Smith'. Apricots: 'Earligold' apricot is better than 'Goldkist' Nectarines that he likes are: Independence', 'Silverlode', 'Panament', and 'Snow Queen'. Because of Jim's experience he does NOT recommend 'Autumn Royal'. Figs: 'Conadria, was the first hybrid, and he also likes 'Long Yellow' which is not very common. Pomegranate: 'Pink Sweet' A few peaches: 'Gold Dust', 'Ventura' 'Bonita' and 'Santa Barbara' A few plums: 'Santa Rosa', 'Mariposa', 'Burgundy' (this writer's personal recommendation. It tastes fabulous, produces well, very low chill and has a long season over 4 weeks), 'Sprite' (plum x cherry), 'Late Santa Rosa'

Jim's program was to be a preview of his presentation at the "Festival of Fruit", however, due to his surgery, he was unable to come to the FoF. We are grateful that he is feeling better now. That makes us even more honored to have been able to hear his program. Thank you Jim. we all enjoyed it.

For the July tasting table we want to thank **June Andersen, David Archer, Rolf Dethlefsen, Paul Fisher, Matt Jurlina, Mike McCright, and Barry**

July 26<sup>th</sup> meeting (continued)

**Resetco**, who brought capulin cherry, grapes, cookies, plantain chips, 'Catalina' plums, kei apple, fruit from a cherry plum seedling, 'Tri Lite' plum x peach cross, mango and papaya. We want to thank **Barry Resetco, Dave Archer, June Andersen and Paul Fisher** for preparing the snacks.

Thank you, too, to those who brought plants for the opportunity table. **June Andersen, William Chow, Frank Habetler, Rod Krause, Mike McCright, Jim Neitzel, Barbara Nickerson, Lew Rishel, and Ruth Sewell**, which included offerings of: loquat, mulberry, ash, raspberries, pine apple sage, succulents plantain banana, agapanthus, zucchini, onion and grape vine.



### Tijuana Trip: Saturday, September 29th

Here is the plan; we will meet at 10 am on Saturday at the World Memorial Building on the north end of the San Diego Zoo. I have seating available for six, let me know if you want to carpool and/or join us.

We will make our first stop at the Mercado Hidalgo. Mercado Hidalgo is a very Mexican market, where you will find all kind of fruit, spices, vegetables, Mexican crafts and food stands. We will spend about two hours visiting each shop. You can buy and bring the fruits, which are on the approved list I will be providing, back across the Border. Other fruits, you will have to consume around lunch time or just before we leave to cross back to the US. On recommendation, bring something to wash your fruit before you eat it.

For those who would prefer not to eat fruits, we will stop where you will be able to choose between Tacos de Carne Asada at one of the stands or enjoy fresh sea food at a small restaurant. We have tried both places and they are both safe.

Then we will walk to Plaza del Rio, a large shopping center. There we will stop at Comercial Mexicana to shop around, and, this is a must, purchase some of the Mexican sweet bread (among the best, the Conchitas!) and one liter of your preferred liquor (Kahlua or Tequila!). From there we will do some window shopping and stop by one of the fruit stands. They currently have very good and cold guanaba drinks. If you decide to go to any of the stores, you will need to catch up with the group.

From Plaza del Rio, we will visit our good friends at Tepoznieves where you will be able to taste their large selection of fruit, alcohol, vegetable, and mixed ice creams, many of which we have not been able to bring to our ice cream meetings.

We should be heading back to the Border around 4:00-5:00pm. Expect a minimum of 45 minutes to about 2 hours of wait at the Border... plenty of time to eat your fruit, sweet bread and tequila!! Time should fly!! This field trip is for Chapter members, family and friends.

By Jose Gallego

### SEPTEMBER GARDEN TIPS

- [ ] Wait until the end of September to give your trees their last fertilization, if necessary.
- [ ] Continue to remove weeds.
- [ ] Verify that your irrigation system is properly working.
- [ ] Verify that each tree is receiving the right amount of water especially your citrus, allowing them to go dry and then over water them will cause the fruit to split. (Yes, your oranges will surely leave your garden and go some place else if you don't treat them right).
- [ ] Watch for brown rot on your citrus.
- [ ] Check the moisture in your soil before irrigating.
- [ ] Keep an eye on your fruit trees for drought stress.
- [ ] Watch out for insects and snakes that may harm you when you are harvesting your fruits and berries.



You can also visit our web site for each of the Monthly Garden Calendars: <http://crfgsandiego.org/garden.html>



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### California Backyard Website

The following list of publications from UC Agriculture and Resources are now available at <http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu/index.html>

- 8100 Frost Protection for Citrus and Other Subtropicals
- 8048 Fruit Trees: Planting and Care of Young Trees
- 8058 Fruit Trees: Pruning Overgrown Deciduous Trees
- 8047 Fruit Trees: Thinning Young Fruit
- 8057 Fruit Trees: Training and Pruning Deciduous Trees
- 7473 Fruittree Leafroller on Ornamental and Fruit Trees
- 7257 Almonds: Calendar of Operations for Home Gardeners
- 7258 Apples and Pears: Calendar of Operations for Home Gardeners
- 7259 Apricots: Calendar of Operations for Home Gardeners
- 8001 Budding & Grafting Citrus & Avocados in the Home Garden
- 7260 Cherries: Calendar of Operations for Home Gardeners
- 8038 Navel Orange Split
- 7261 Peaches and Nectarines: Calendar of Operations for Home Gardeners
- 7262 Plums: Calendar of Operations for Home Gardeners
- 7263 Walnuts: Calendar of Operations for Home Gardeners
- 7413 Apple Scab
- 8121 Safe Handling of Fruits & Vegetables
- 8007 Cherry Crinkle Leaf
- 8207 *Ferrisia Gilli*
- 8147 Pistachio Calendar
- 8126 Producing Quality Almonds
- 8199 Oranges – Safe Storage
- 8101 Key Points of Control
- 8229 Apple – Safe Storage

#### Diaperes Root Weevil Update

Currently, several areas in San Diego County are quarantined for Diaperes Root Weevil; Carlsbad (La Costa), Carmel Valley, Del Mar, Encinitas

## Diaperes Root Weevil Update (continued)

(Olivenhain), Fairbanks Ranch, La Jolla, Oceanside, Rancho Santa Fe, Torrey Pines, Solana Beach and University City. For more information on what's going on around the San Diego County that may affect your home gardening, check out the Agriculture, Weights & Measure website at [www.sdcounty.ca.gov/awm/](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/awm/)

Have you heard about **Light Brown Apple Moth** from Australia? They've been found in Los Angeles and San Francisco. This insect destroys, stunts or deforms young seedlings; spoils the appearance of ornamental plants; and injures deciduous fruit-tree crops, citrus and grapes. Find out more by visiting: [www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/EXOTIC/lightbrownapplemoth.html](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/EXOTIC/lightbrownapplemoth.html)

Thanks to **Vince Lazaneo**, Horticulture Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension for these updates.

### Pitaya Festival – Sat., Sep. 15

UC South Coast Research and Extension Center,  
7601 Irvine Blvd., Irvine, CA 92618

- |             |                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00-9:00   | Registration-Coffee-Pastries                                                                                                                                           |
| 9:00-9:10   | Welcome and Introductions-<br>Ramiro Lobo & Edgar Valdivia                                                                                                             |
| 9:10-9:30   | Overview of South Coast Research &<br>Extension Center (SCREC)-<br>Gary Bender, UCC Farm Advisor                                                                       |
| 9:30-10:00  | Pitaya Research at UC: Overview<br>and Update-Ramiro Lobo,<br>UCCE Farm Advisor                                                                                        |
| 10:00-10:30 | Brix Scores and Other Factors Affecting<br>Flavor in Pitayas-Speaker TBA, UC<br>Postharvest Management Specialist                                                      |
| 10:30-11:00 | Markets and Marketing Outlook for<br>Pitayas-Bill Gerlach, Melissa's World<br>Variety Produce, Inc.                                                                    |
| 11:00-12:00 | Tour of Pitaya Research Field Plots:<br>Varieties, Culture Practices and<br>Lessons Learned-Ramiro Lobo &<br>Irma DeBonis                                              |
| 12:00-2:00  | Pitaya or Dragon Fruit Tasting-<br>Edgar Valdivia, Ramiro Lobo,<br>Gary Bender and Irma DeBonis<br>(The testing will be of the best pitayas<br>brought by the growers) |

**\*\*PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH\*\***

**THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THIS EVENT, BUT  
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.**

If you have not already done so, please register  
(space is limited) by going to this site:

<http://ucanr.org/pitahaya>

**1. Volunteers Wanted:** Call June Andersen at 760/729-3501 if you're interested in staffing our booth.  
**Fall Home & Garden Show at the Del Mar Fairgrounds – Fri., Sat. and Sun., Sep. 14-16.** Shifts are scheduled in 4-hour intervals.

**2. Quail Botanical Work Party – Sat., Sep. 22, 9 am to 12 pm.** If you're interested in this worthwhile volunteer work, call June Andersen at 760/729-3501.

**3. North County Chapter Meeting – Sat., Sep. 22 at 2 pm** (follows after the Quail Botanical Work Party) at Ben & Mary Poirier's in Fallbrook. 760/751-1605

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



### California Native Plant Sale

**Sat. October 13: Open to public 11 am to 3 pm,**  
Cash or Checks only. Free Expert California Native Advice.  
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado Courtyard. [www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org)

### Quail Botanical Gardens

**October 20 & 21: Annual Fall Plant Sale.**  
(9 am to 11 -- Oct. 20 sale preview for Members only.)  
General Admission 11 am to 4 pm. 760/436-3036 ext. 206  
Visit [www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org) for class details and other classes.

### San Diego Horticultural Society

□ **Mon. October 8 at 6 pm:** horticulturist Bill Thomas offer insights into one of the East Coast's most talked about gardens. Thomas, Chanticleer's Executive Director and Head Gardener, has led Chanticleer for the last five years and will lead us on an armchair tour of the 35-acre garden on Philadelphia's fashionable Mainline. Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds on Jimmie Durante Blvd in Del Mar. **Info.** 760/730-3268 or [www.sdhortsoc.org](http://www.sdhortsoc.org)

□ **Mon. November 3, from 9 am to 3 pm** you can tour three staffed Green Gardens to learn about successful and beautiful drought tolerant landscaping and see one of San Diego's first Green Roof buildings. This free day lets you progress at your own speed through the gardens between 9 a.m. and 3 pm. For more information, call (619) 741-1090.

### Water Conservation Garden

**Sat. 10:30 am, Sun 1:30 pm: Docent tours** of the Xeriscape garden. Free. ☎ Info: [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org) or 619/660-0614  
12122 Cuyamaca College Dr. West, El Cajon

### Del Mar Fairgrounds

**Sep. 14, 15 & 16: Fall Home & Garden Show**  
Fee: \$8/adult; Free under 12 years old. ☎ Info:  
[www.fallhomegardenshow.com/](http://www.fallhomegardenshow.com/)

