



# CRFG San Diego Chapter Newsletter

April 2011



## Mission Statement

"To encourage and foster public and scientific interest, research, education in and the preservation of rare fruit plants that have edible seeds, fruits, leaves, stems or roots and are not commonly grown commercially. The furtherance and encouragement of these activities shall be for the benefit of the public rather than commercial interests."

From: [www.crfgsandiego.org](http://www.crfgsandiego.org)

## April 27th, 2011 General Meeting: Hawaiian Trip of Bob Holzinger

Wednesday - 7pm  
Room 101 Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park

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Happy Spring and good growing to all!

This month's meeting will feature an exciting presentation on Hawaii by our own member Bob Holzinger. Bob attended the 20th annual meeting of the Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers organization on the island of Kauai and will share highlights of his trip. Don't miss this opportunity at the April meeting.

I would like to thank Erik Collins for organizing the two Community Outreach events this past month (the Spring Garden Festival at Cuyamaca College and the Earth Fair event in Balboa Park). Thank You to David Yetz and to the other volunteers who helped on these events. Your time and the energy that you give to our Chapter is GREATLY appreciated! I would also like to ask other chapter members to help Erik or our event coordinators out on these events. The Community Outreach events are a fun way to promote our chapter and to get new people involved in our organization. Please join in and volunteer in future events.

Our Chapter plant sale at Balboa Park is FAST approaching! We **very much** need the help of our members to make this plant sale a successful event! We will need volunteers to pick up plants from Southwestern College on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will also need to bring any unsold plants back to the college after the sale on Sat. April 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will need people to help price and prep plants at the Casa del Prado on Fri. the 22<sup>nd</sup>, and anyone who would like to donate plants for this sale should bring their plants to Balboa Park – room 104 on Fri. the 22<sup>nd</sup>. We also need volunteers to help at the sale on Sat the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Some members have been working very hard to make this event happen and we really need the participation of as many members as possible! Please donate some time back to the chapter and help us have a great plant sale on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Contact José Gallego, at (619) 261-3610, or Mark Bendixen, (619) 440-5027, to let them know how you can help.

This year we are having a larger display booth at the San Diego County Fair (the Del Mar Fair). This will bring our two chapters of the CRFG more attention and interest from the Fair attendees. Carol Graham is again organizing this event for both the San Diego and North County San Diego Chapters, (Thank you Carol). If you have items that you would be willing to loan to this exhibit (posters, fruit trees in containers – 15 gallon or larger, or fruit for display) please contact Erik Collins on the Community Outreach Committee. Carol is including a message in this newsletter on how to volunteer for this fair exhibit. Free tickets to the fair and a wonderful chance to promote the CRFG are given to all volunteers. Please donate a few hours and have a great time at the fair!

I am saddened to inform all members that the official Board Meeting Minutes that were being held by our previous San Diego CRFG chapter secretary, Cielo Foth, are unavailable for members to review. Cielo has refused to return these official records to our chapter after repeated requests by the current Officers of the chapter. Requests were made verbally as well as by e-mail and by certified letter, with no results. It is unfortunate that Cielo has chosen to disregard her obligation to our chapter and has chosen not to return chapter property to our organization.

Sincerely, Tom Del Hotal

### **Next Board Meeting**

**Tuesday May 3rd. 6:30 P.M. Location:** The Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College.  
Everyone is welcome and invited to join us!

### **Refreshment Table**

**This month's meeting:** If your last name falls between the letters of Sch... to You..., please bring goodies for members to share and please come early or remain after the meeting to help set up and put away the supplies for the refreshment table.

Members, PLEASE help set up or stay after the meeting to help clean up and put away items back into our Chapter's storage locker. Clean up is quick and easy when many work together.

**Thank you!**

### **HELP NEEDED!**

We need a few volunteers to help staff a CRFG Community Outreach Booth at the **San Diego Zoo** for their **Incredible Edibles Garden Celebration**. The dates we need staff to attend is for **May 5, 6, 7, and 8** for the hours of **11-3**. Volunteers will get free admission to the Zoo and can visit the exhibits before or after they staff our booth. Please contact Erik Collins if you would like to help promote our Chapter at this fun event. Please reply Erik by Sun April 24th. 619-303-5353 or email: [Sonicpig@hotmail.com](mailto:Sonicpig@hotmail.com)

### **Secretary's Report** by Mark Bendixen

March meeting started at 6:45 P. M.

March minutes approved.

Still trying to get the clubs binder of minutes returned from Cielo.

San Diego County Credit Union is our new bank.

Grafting workshop, about 20 attended.

No. County Chapter will be sharing the booth at Del Mar Fair.

Planning a picnic – workshop in August on a Saturday.

Ordering citrus budwood and rootstock seedlings for grafting demo and sale.

### **Treasurer's Report** by Erik Collins

This month, we will finish moving our accounts from US Bank to the San Diego County Credit Union. By doing this, we help keep jobs in San Diego. The nominal interest rate on our accounts is .40%. Inflation is running at 5 to 8 percent, so our real rate of return is around **minus** 5 percent per year.

YTD, 2011: Revenue: \$1,612.76. Expense: \$643.73. Net Income: \$969.03.

YTD budgeted net income (loss) was (456.03), so we have a favorable variance of \$1,425.06.



### **Committee Reports**

#### **Membership & Hospitality Committee** by Karen Lakomy

**New Members:** Welcome to new members Brian and Rebekah Roach (Escondido 92026), Britt Cool (San Diego 92139), Gregg Hansen (Bonita 91902), Karl and Lindsey Doering (San Diego 92123), Paul McMullen (San Diego 92117), Martha Polanski (Lemon Grove 91945), Bie-hwa Ma (San Diego 92117) and Ching-chuan Chen (San Diego 92117).

**Questions** - For questions regarding membership or notification of address, phone and email changes, contact Karen at 619-579-6366 or [Membership@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:Membership@CRFGSanDiego.org).

**Community Outreach & Education Committee** by Erik Collins

Here is the list of events we will be participating in, through April 2011:

Earth Fair at Balboa Park, April 17.

CRFG Plant Sale at Balboa Park, April 23.

Thanks, in advance, to all of the volunteers for the upcoming CRFG plant sale.

The Community Outreach Booth was set up at the Water Conservation Garden/Cuyamaca College Spring Festival on April 9. Thanks to **Jim Neitzel**, **Dave Yetz**, and **Karen Lakomy** for staffing the booth. Thanks to Jim and Dave for bringing fruit displays.

**Opportunity Table Committee** by Gustavo Reynoso

Thank you to everyone for donating plants and trees to the opportunity table. Thanks to your donations we sold \$92.00 worth of tickets for the opportunity table. Please continue to bring your fruit trees and/or gardening supplies such as pruners, loppers, shovels, etc. The more items on the opportunity table, the more tickets we can sell. Last meeting only three members donated plants. If each member brings in at least one plant it will most certainly increase our opportunity table ticket sales. Also, if you do bring in a plant/tree don't forget to put your name on it as well as the name of the plant/tree. Thank You.

**Paul Thomson Endowment Committee** by David Long

I wanted to give you a bit of history on how the fruit tree give away came about. I received a call in January from Tom Del Hotal asking my thoughts on providing schools and gardens with fruit trees. We immediately went to work with the proposal and Tom contacted the growers. Dave Wilson Nursery committed to provide us trees, Tom picked out the varieties that were good for this area, and I contacted numerous people to help. We were scheduled for a vote on the proposal at our February meeting but because it was getting so late in the season, Tom had to ask Dave Wilson to hold the last delivery truck going to San Diego until the membership voted. Luckily, they did holdup their delivery truck almost a week. With the green light from the membership Tom Del Hotal ordered the trees the morning after the meeting and made arrangements with Southwestern College to have them stored.

Next, members rallied to help unload the truck on a Friday morning. Ian Miller coordinated volunteers from his community garden friends and came to Southwestern College where they met up with CRFG members David Yetz, Erik Collins, Jim Neitzel, and me. We unloaded and heeled in 211 low chill fruit trees of 15 varieties. Many hands made the work go quickly and it was a lot of fun helping for a good cause. The distribution date was planned for two weeks later so José Gallego worked late into the night writing articles and got the word out to the media groups about this event.

The Master Gardeners Judy Crall and Judith Jacoby were involved from the beginning, getting a long list of schools and gardens that were interested in obtaining the trees and organizing the order and pickup of the trees from Southwestern College. With 43 schools and gardens requesting trees this was a large undertaking.

The day the fruit trees were given away CRFG members Linda Williams, David Yetz, Robin Rivet, and I met with Master Gardeners Judy and Richard Crall and Mindy Swanson at Southwestern College. Though the trees flew out fast there was good accounting by Judy so things were very orderly. Many of the children were able to help when the trees were planted at the schools the following week.

Because José Gallego reached out to the media there was good coverage after the event. Even Joe Sabol of CRFG Inc. has asked us to write an article for the fruit news magazine about the cooperation of all these different groups to make this event so successful.

I would like to thank the following people who unselfishly gave their time, knowledge, and information. None of this could have happened without those who supported this endeavor. It was the combined effort of all that made this work so successfully.

**Tom Del Hotal** who helped organize the idea, contacted the nurseries, selected the trees, scheduled the delivery, and set up the holding area at Southwestern College.

**Ian Miller** who organized the volunteers from the community gardens to unload the trees and who created the on-line signup form used for the requesting groups.

**David Yetz** who provided help and guidance with both the delivery and dispersal of the trees.

**Jim Neitzel** for making sure the trees arrived properly and feeding us cherimoyas.

**Erik Collins** who helped with unloading and made sure the tree count was accurate.

**Linda Williams** who organized schools, helped with the give away, and volunteered at the schools to help plant the trees they received.

**Robin Rivet** who came and provided resources, information, and follow up to the schools and groups through the California Center for Sustainable Energy on planting bare root trees.

**José Gallego** who wrote to all the media and worked tirelessly making sure these efforts helped promote our chapter.

**Judy and Richard Crall and Judith Jacoby** of the Master Gardeners who organized the schools and tree distribution list and made sure each group received what they requested.

**Mindy Swanson** with the County of San Diego Childhood Obesity Initiative, who helped at the giveaway and assisted with the schools and groups afterward.

**Tom Spellman and Dave Wilsons Nursery** who generously provided us trees at a very reasonable cost so we could help schools and community gardens.

**All the others** who were involved and helped to make this such a huge success.

As a club, it is the efforts of the whole that give us the opportunities to gain knowledge and resources we use in our daily lives. It is your involvement that helps give meaning to the community and makes the club stronger. Your involvement can be bringing in your spare plants to the opportunity table, spending a small amount of time to help with the room set up or take down, learning new skills by joining some of our groups like the grafting committee, reaching out to your community by helping with plant sales or the Endowment Committee. It is your participation that makes the club successful. Please, give a little and you will gain a lot.

Thank you,  
David Long  
Paul Thomson Endowment Committee Chair



Photos of students working with donated trees.

Salah Nassir eyes the roots of a fruit tree before planting.



**Left:** Nancy Giang and Cindy Vo, members of Allison Buell's second grade class, assist with the planting on March 30, 2011

**Right:** shoveling with parent volunteer Jos Ramos

Photos by  
**Adam Ward**  
 Media Specialist  
 Mid-City CAN (Community  
 Advocacy Network)  
 619-283-9624 x 210  
[award@midcitycan.org](mailto:award@midcitycan.org)

**CRFG EXHIBIT**  
**San Diego County Fair 2011**  
**10 June (Friday) - 4 July (Monday)**  
**closed 13, 20 & 27 June (Mondays)**  
**by Carol Frye Graham**

**THANK YOU** to all who have already volunteered. I hope that the following information will be useful to you and that it may encourage others to volunteer. This year we will have two adjacent spaces in the Pat O'Brien Building (in the southeast inside section, close to where we were last year) and Fair entrance passes for CRFG members staffing our exhibit will again be distributed through WILL CALL (see below). CRFG is endeavoring to have multiple members at our exhibit every day of this twenty-two day Fair. Numerous staffers are needed. **This year, the Fair gates are scheduled to open at 11AM on weekdays (remember closed on 13, 20 & 27 June) and 10AM on Saturdays and Sundays and 4 July. We are hoping to have members staff our exhibit from 11AM-2PM and 2-5PM on most weekdays and 10AM-1PM and 1-4PM on Saturdays and Sundays and 4 July.** This is a VERY BIG undertaking and your support is always appreciated! **To volunteer, please call me at (760) 753-6757 (recommend evenings).**

**GETTING TO THE FAIR & PARKING** (NOTE DIRECTIONS TO FREE PARKING LOT)

The Fair will again be charging for parking in its main parking lot (at least \$10 per vehicle) and this will cause traffic congestion. No one expects you to pay for parking so that you can staff the exhibit, so please use the free parking at Horsepark (same as last year). From Interstate-5 drive approximately 1 mile east on Via de la Valle. At the traffic light, turn south (right) onto El Camino Real and start looking to the west (right) for the entrance to Horsepark's large unpaved parking lot. Taking a few seconds to note where you parked can save several minutes when returning to your vehicle. From one hour before the Fair opens to closing time, a free shuttle will travel between Horsepark and the Fairgrounds four times an hour (shuttle does not leave at precise times). I recommend staying on this shuttle until it stops at the O'Brien Gate (Fair's main entrance), about a 15 minute ride through the back of the Fairgrounds to the O'Brien Gate. This shuttle service will run every day that the Fair is open.

**Warning - Read the next paragraph only if you want to go to the Fair on a Saturday or Sunday or Friday 1 July or Monday 4 July (long holiday weekend)**

If you are going to the Fair on a weekend or Friday 1 July or Monday 4 July (I need to emphasize that the following information applies only to these specific dates) you may find one of two alternate remote parking and shuttle services more convenient. If you are driving south to the Fair, you may exit Interstate-5 at Manchester Avenue, go east for approximately 3/4 of a mile and turn north (left) into Mira Costa College, San

Elijo Campus (the traffic light makes it simple to find the only vehicular entrance into this small campus). I have used this site for weekend access to the Fair and have always found it most convenient. If you are driving north to the Fair, you may exit Interstate-5 at Del Mar Heights Road, go east for approximately 1 mile and turn north (left) into Torrey Pines High School. The parking and shuttle services from both Mira Costa College (San Elijo Campus) and Torrey Pines High School are free and leave at approximately 15 minute intervals, starting at about 9AM.

**WILL CALL** Before you enter the Fairgrounds, you need to pick up an entrance pass (credential) at WILL CALL, a small booth immediately south of the O'Brien Gate. Identify yourself as staffing the California Rare Fruit Growers Exhibit and give your name. REMEMBER: Go to WILL CALL (not the Ticket Sales Booth) to pick up your pass. WILL CALL will be open at least an hour before the Fairgrounds are scheduled to open to the public.

**EXHIBIT AREA** The O'Brien Building (first large building left of the main entrance) will open to the public simultaneously with the opening of the main gate of the Fairgrounds. As an exhibit staffer you will be permitted entrance before the onslaught of the public (it would be very nice if the first shift of each day would be at our exhibit and ready to smile at our first visitors at 11AM or 10 AM). Please wear your CRFG name tag or CRFG shirt if you have one. **Our exhibit is in the southeast inside section of the O'Brien Building, in a free-standing exhibit area next to the Master Gardener exhibit, and not backed up to an exterior wall of the building).** While the O'Brien Building will keep out any unseasonable sprinkles, bringing a jacket in case of cool or windy weather is recommended. On many days, heat and not coolness may be of greater concern for personal comfort so dress accordingly. Also recommended is bringing your own cooler with lunch or snacks to avoid the high cost of refreshments at the Fair and minimize temporary absences from our exhibit. Please do not leave our exhibit while your partner is also temporarily away. If you have unusual fruit, please bring it for display during your shift (you need not give out samples). In case anyone wants to give out samples, I will try to leave a knife at our exhibit for cutting up fruit but remember no knives will be permitted to come through the admission gates once the Fair has opened due to security concerns. Three chairs will be provided at our exhibit for your comfort. A broom, dust pan, dusting cloth, and trash bucket will be provided to help keep our exhibit looking its best. Please take your Fair mementos, programs, newspapers, etc. with you when you leave for the day.

Before your shift starts, please spend a few minutes familiarizing yourself with the exhibit and the CRFG binder. Membership applications are stored at the exhibit. If the supply of membership applications appears to be running out, please call me at (760) 753-6757 and leave a note informing the following shifts of your call. In the past, CRFG has given away up to 3,000 membership applications per year from our exhibit at the Fair. While we are pleased when visitors express an interest in CRFG, this enormous volume of applications could cost us hundreds of dollars. Also, freely distributed applications have not proven to be at all effective in increasing membership. So please, suggest taking an application only to people expressing a keen interest in joining CRFG and make those only casually interested ask for an application. If the supply of applications is totally gone, show interested individuals the sample application in the CRFG binder. Many questions about our organization can be answered by referring to the brief discussion of CRFG in the membership application. When a person appears interested in membership, invite them to our next meeting and instruct them on joining the nearest chapter (this information will be in the CRFG binder). Inform them that **joining the CRFG state organization does not automatically place them on the mailing list of their local chapter and that membership in our state organization is required to join any chapter.**

To help answer questions about fruit, you will find copies of HP's Citrus, HP's Western Fruit, Berries and Nuts, Ortho's All About Citrus and Subtropical Fruits and, most importantly, a binder containing CRFG's numerous "Fruit Facts". If you find that any of the "Fruit Facts" are missing (unfortunately this has happened in the past), please leave a dated note identifying which "Fruit Fact" needs replacing. If you are the last person to staff our exhibit for the day, store the books and the binder discreetly out of the public's view under the counter. If you are asked a question concerning fruit that you cannot answer, please direct the inquirer to our list of "Fruit Specialists" (in the binder with our "Fruit Facts"). If the inquirer intends to write to a fruit

specialist, please remind them to enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope with their question. The binder will also contain a list of CRFG Member Nurseries and Certified Farmers' Markets in San Diego County. Visitors' questions concerning where they can buy fruiting plants or unusual fruits clearly demonstrate that the exhibit is stimulating interest. If you bring personal literature, make sure people are aware that it is your own and not a handout.

Please remember that the main purpose of our participation at the Fair is to encourage the growing of rare fruits and thereby stimulate CRFG membership. All sales from educational exhibits are prohibited by Fair regulations.

If emergency medical assistance is ever needed, remember the Fair security guards carry walkie-talkies.

**ENJOY THE FAIR** Either before or after your shift, please take the opportunity to enjoy looking at the educational and garden exhibits. If you leave the Fair and want to return later that day for your personal entertainment, remember to have your hand stamped when exiting (your pass is good for only a single entrance). If you have a problem while staffing, please call Carol (760) 753-6757.

### Chocolate Festival at San Diego Botanic Garden

Saturday, May 7 19am – 4pm

Spend the Saturday before Mother's Day at San Diego Botanic Garden's famous Chocolate Festival  
Cost: Free with admission or membership, plus tasting and children's activity tickets as desired.

Info: [www.SDBGarden.org](http://www.SDBGarden.org) or 760 436 3036 ext 206

### Volunteer Orientation for San Diego Botanic Garden

Thursday, April 28, 2011 9:30am – noon

Ecke Building  
230 Quail Gardens Drive  
Encinitas, CA 92024

Contact Michael Wolfington to register: 760 436 3036 ext 206 [mwolfington@sdbgarden.org](mailto:mwolfington@sdbgarden.org)

### Free Classes by ATAC for Urban Forestry

May 16: 5:30-7:30pm **Make Sustainable Tree Choices to Increase Property Value** by Robin Rivet

This presentation will offer advice on choosing the healthiest trees that appreciate in value over time and how this translates into the increased value of your property.

June 2: 5:30-7:30pm **Sustainable Fruit Trees: Best Practices for Homes and Schools** by Tom Del Hotal

This presentation will provide an overview of what fruit trees do best in our region and some tips on getting the best results from your choices.

Register at [www.energycenter.org/forestry](http://www.energycenter.org/forestry) or Contact Robin Rivet: 858.634.4741 [robin.rivet@energycenter.org](mailto:robin.rivet@energycenter.org)

### To participate or volunteer in any of committees, or for more information about the committees or committee projects contact:

#### Botanical Garden Development Committee (Joint w/N County)

David Yetz [FormerChair@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:FormerChair@CRFGSanDiego.org)

#### Chapter Bylaws / SOP Review & Revision Committee

Community Outreach & Education Committee (Joint w/N County)

Erik Collins 619-303-5353 [Sonicpig@hotmail.com](mailto:Sonicpig@hotmail.com)

#### Library Committee

David Yetz 619-981-3397 [Librarian@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:Librarian@CRFGSanDiego.org)

#### Membership & Hospitality Committee

Karen Lakomy 619-579-6366 [Membership@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:Membership@CRFGSanDiego.org)

#### Newsletter Committee

Fang Liu 858-866-9674 [Editor@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:Editor@CRFGSanDiego.org)

#### Opportunity Table/Drawing Committee

Gustavo Reynoso 619-861-7821  
[OpportunityTable@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:OpportunityTable@CRFGSanDiego.org)

#### Paul Thomson Endowment Committee

David Long 858-748-2398  
[ThomsonEndowment@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:ThomsonEndowment@CRFGSanDiego.org)

#### Propagation Committee

Jim Neitzel 619-262-8959 Available 7-9 am & after dark

#### Publicity Committee

David Silverstein 619-226-6469 [bentleye@cox.net](mailto:bentleye@cox.net)

José Gallego 619-261-3610

[Webmaster@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:Webmaster@CRFGSanDiego.org)

#### Refreshment Committee

#### Special Events Committee

#### Vendor's Contact

#### Ways & Means Committee

#### Website Committee

José Gallego 619-261-3610

[Webmaster@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:Webmaster@CRFGSanDiego.org)

The following committees need volunteers to lead them:

**Refreshment Committee – Special Events Committee – Vendor's Contact – Ways & Means Committee**

**Save a Tree! Go Paperless!** If you're still receiving your newsletter by postal mail and you have an email address, please consider receiving it electronically. In addition to receiving it a lot earlier than postal delivery, you will also receive time-sensitive information on special events that is usually too late to post in the newsletter. Past issues of the newsletters are also posted on our website. Let the membership committee know if you would like to try it. Thanks to those members who have decided to go paperless.

***San Diego CRFG Board Contact Info:***

**Chair: Tom Del Hotal**

[Chair@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:Chair@CRFGSanDiego.org)

(619) 454-2628

**Vice-Chair: Jim Neitzel**

(619) 262-8959

(generally from 7-9 am & after dark)

**Treasurer: Erik Collins**

[Treasurer@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:Treasurer@CRFGSanDiego.org)

(619) 303-5353

**Secretary: Mark Bendixen**

[Secretary@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:Secretary@CRFGSanDiego.org)

**Former Chair: David Yetz**

[FormerChair@CRFGSanDiego.org](mailto:FormerChair@CRFGSanDiego.org)

(619) 981-3397

**Upcoming Events – at a Glance**

4/23 – 10am	CRFG Spring Plant Sale at Balboa Park
4/27 – 7pm	General Meeting: Hawaiian Trip of Bob Holzinger Loquat Taste-off
5/3 – 6:30pm	Board Meeting at Water Conservation Garden in El Cajon
5/5 – 5/8	Incredible Edibles Garden Celebration at The San Diego Zoo
5/7	Mission Hills Garden Tour - Starting at Mission Hills Nursery
5/14 – 9am	Work Party at San Diego Botanic Garden
5/20 – 7pm	North County General Meeting
5/25 – 7pm	General Meeting: Citrus Varieties

**California Rare Fruit Growers  
San Diego Chapter**

P.O. Box 152943

San Diego, CA 92195

USA

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED