



San Diego Chapter Newsletter

January 2016



Wednesday, January 27th 2016

Annual Scion Exchange

7:00 pm Room 101 Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park

Putting Down Roots in 2016!

As your 2016 co-chairs we are honored and excited to welcome you into this new year!

The lead up to the 2015 Festival of Fruit was our introduction to CRFG. We had a wonderful time working on set up with so many dedicated volunteers. The event itself was inspiring beyond our expectations—so much so that we were convinced to accept the challenge posed by a number of board members to throw our bare roots into your fertile soil and see what blooms!

Given our newness, we thought it best to take a moment to introduce ourselves in writing, though we look forward to getting to know each of you in person in the days to come.

Our expertise is not in fruit (yet!) but our family is passionate about food! The three of us—Benjamin, Kelsey and our 14-year old son Kerouac raise goats, poultry, fish, bees, myriad vegetables and a growing number of fruits at our home in Casa de Oro. When we're not tending the home fires we are often found working our cooperative farm in Chula Vista. Agua Dulce Farm provides sustainably grown vegetables and eggs to customers throughout San Diego County through our Community Supported Agriculture program. We are also members of City Farmers via years of history as well as part-time employment resurrecting their apiary, etc.

Kelsey is a San Diego native. Our home as well as acreage in Jamul have been in her family for decades and we intend to leave a legacy of CRFG bounty on both properties. Benjamin comes from a military background and currently serves as a public affairs officer for the California National Guard. His formative years were spent outside of Fairbanks Alaska creating fond memories foraging for rose-hips, Arctic Strawberries and Wild Alaska Blueberries.

We come to CRFG with great respect for the invaluable knowledge stored in the minds and at the

fingertips of our members. We bring connections to a wide world of young farmers, and a mix of other folks who find this world exciting (or will once they know more about it!) Our primary focus is to diversify and expand our chapter's reach. With the help of our dynamic board and the support of our members 2016 is shaping up to be a fruitful year!

Benjamin and Kelsey

Meeting Program

1. Welcome
2. Guest Introductions
3. Announcements
4. Scion Exchange
5. Meeting Concludes – 10pm

Next Month – Grafting Presentations and Workshop

Fruits in season this month

cherimoya, mandarin, grapefruit, avocado, mango, guava

To contribute what you're harvesting or buying in season, please email editor@crfgsandiego.org

Tasting and Refreshments Table

last names beginning with **M** or **N**

Please bring fruit or other items already cut into to serving size pieces and labeled with variety.

Please label the container with your name and remember to pick up your container at the end of the meeting. Also, if you can help with Tasting Table set up before (or clean up after) the meeting it is very much appreciated. Thank you!

Board of Directors Meeting

1st Wednesday of every month

Balboa Park, Room 104

6pm-9pm

This meeting is open to all members to attend and participate.

Treasurer's report by Stephanie Murphy

December Expenses

\$300.00 - Committee Member Gifts

\$200.00 - Holiday Party Door Prizes

\$177.89 - Holiday Party Decorations

\$143.83 - Holiday Party Turkey and Ham

\$125.00 - Board Member Gifts

\$123.98 - Outreach Committee - Tables

\$1,070.70 - Total Expenses

December Income

\$ 60.00 - T-Shirt Sales

\$ 60.00 - Total Income

If you have any questions please send an email to Treasurer@CRFGSanDiego.org

November 30, 2015

CRFG San Diego

Board Meeting Minutes

Commence at 6:25 pm

Board Present: Ben Kotnik, Gregg Hansen, Priya Kanakha, Stephanie Murphy

Attendees: Laurie Wasserman

Secretary Report: November Board and General meeting minutes were approved.

Stephanie presented the Treasurer's report for November, and was approved.

Stephanie spoke about potential speakers for 2016, and the possibility of Steven Murray for May meeting. The proposed topic was Cherries with the possibility of samples from trees that are suitable for San Diego. Stephanie plans to provide the prospective speaker list to Kim Skinner.

Finance Committee to manage FoF money was discussed. Ben proposed the following ideas for consideration - A scholarship award from \$250 to \$1000 to Cuyamaca

College Botanical Society; Two \$500 scholarship awards for Thompson orchard. Two students are interested in working in the orchard; Scholarships for City and Southwestern College, City Farmers Academy, and Bonita Creek Nursery. The recommendation was to have anyone interested submit an application for the scholarship with details on how the award will be utilized. The possibility of partnering with Master Gardeners for a scholarship was also suggested.

Stephanie spoke about the new membership registration process, and making general meeting announcements along with eblast for starting 2016 chapter membership list.

Holiday party raffle and door prizes were discussed. Meeting adjourned: 7:40 pm

December 11, 2015

CRFG San Diego

Holiday Party / General Meeting Minutes

Commence at 6:00 pm

Gregg Hansen welcomed everyone to the Chapter Holiday Party, and introduced the 2016 Chapter Board. As a year end review the following members, along with the 2015 Chapter Board members, were recognized with an Amazon Gift Card - **Carol Graham** (Fair), **Tom Del Hotal** & **Maddie Wichman** (FoF), **David Sohn** (Hospitality), **Andy Fincham** & **Mimi Labrucherie** (Membership), **Fang Liu** (Newsletter), **Laura Parker** (Opportunity Table), **June Andersen** (Outreach), **Marianne West** & **Roger Pollard** (Propagation/Bancroft Learning Center), **Elizabeth Pollard** & **Sarah Lebidine** (Tasting Table), and **José Gallego** (Website). **Gregg** thanked them for their extraordinary contribution for making the chapter events successful, and urged others to take on a more active role in participating in the chapter during 2016.

Elizabeth Pollard created a beautiful Holiday setting which all the members and their guests thoroughly enjoyed.

Davina Keddo and her kids managed the Holiday Gift Exchange.

Meeting adjourned: 9:45 pm

2015 was a year-to-remember for CRFG-SD

Every single one of you reading this newsletter should be proud! This was a year in which the members of the SDCRFG knocked it out of the park. From an incredible line up of speakers throughout the year, a fantastic and widely praised Festival of Fruit to a smashing holiday party, 2015 is a year that will go down in the annals of this organization.

This being an organization truly representative of its members, we couldn't have done any of it without you. Of special note, we would like to take a moment to recognize those individuals who served on the board this previous year. Being a volunteer member of the board is a time intensive labor of love and those individuals greatly gave of themselves to make our organization better — for that we deeply thank you.

In addition, our holiday party was a fantastic affair made even better by the love and commitment of those who volunteered. The board, both past and present, would like to send a heartfelt thank you to everyone who dedicated themselves to it and gave so much of their time, energy, and resources to make this event a huge success!

It is encouraging to see a group of individuals so willing to do what needs to be done for the betterment of the organization. The next year is poised to be exciting and as always, won't be possible without the full effort and support of our members.

January meeting brings annual, highly anticipated event

With the holidays now behind us, we can all look forward to an exciting new year with the San Diego chapter of the California Rare Fruit Growers Association. While there are numerous events planned throughout the year, perhaps none is more anticipated than the annual scion exchange happening this month!

A 15 minute window of first choice will be given to those who bring in scion wood for the exchange. Current members of CRFG, Inc will also have an opportunity to select scion wood before it is opened to all in attendance. Both groups (those bringing scion wood and CRFG, Inc members) will be given a ticket indicating their ability to participate in the scion exchange ahead of the general exchange.

We will provide an opportunity for anyone to register with the state CRFG organization prior to the scion exchange. If you're not currently a member of CRFG, Inc this would be a fantastic time to join and secure your place in the early selection of scion wood. We would ask that everyone please

limit their selections to no more than two pieces from each variety - this allows each member the opportunity to participate in the exchange.

As this is truly a member driven event, it can not be successful with you. They often say during public radio fund drives - don't assume someone else will do it. While the weather hasn't been the most agreeable this year, please step outside and collect the myriad variety in your yard, we want to see what you've got and more importantly - we want to grow it! Once you've collected the scions you'd like to bring, please be sure to label your scion wood with variety, chill requirements, harvest time, growing preferences and your initials. Not wanting to run afoul of anyone, please do not bring any patented varieties. Please, no citrus and make sure to arrive early to ensure everything is ready to go by our 7 p.m. meeting start time. In addition to your scion wood, plan on bringing plastic bags, masking/nursery tape and a marking pen.

2016 FESTIVAL OF FRUIT

The Year of Edible Landscaping – from A-Z (Apples to Zapotes)

August 26-28th

San Luis Obispo County

The Central Coast Chapter of CRFG is hard at work planning an exciting and educational Festival for you. We will have two full days of garden tours on Friday and Sunday (see the article on Robert and Carol Scott's home in the current issue of the Fruit Gardener magazine – just one of the fantastic gardens on the tour). There will be a "meet and greet" on Friday night. All day Saturday will be spent on the Cal Poly campus with Rosalind Creasy, our keynote speaker, kicking things off. Ms. Creasy is the author of "The complete book of EDIBLE LANDSCAPING" and a number of other gardening related books – including cooking from the garden. Many amazing and fun speakers will be available throughout the day as well as vendor and non-profit information booths. The day will end with a delicious (BBQ) dinner followed by a passionate speaker who will stimulate your sweet tooth - think chocolate.

The Central Coast, with its year round sunny and mild climate, is an internationally acclaimed destination. The area abounds in bike and hiking trails, world class wineries, great farmers markets and restaurants, the Hearst castle, beautiful beaches, and charming small towns. You will find much to do here during your stay so come early and stay late, make a vacation of it, bring your walking shoes and camera and join us for the best festival ever!

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

Board Contact Info:

Co-Chair: Benjamin Cossel

Co-Chair@CRFGSanDiego.org
307.274.0800

Co-Chair: Kelsey Cossel

Co-Chair@CRFGSanDiego.org
503.313.8871

Vice-Chair: Kim Skinner

ViceChair@CRFGSanDiego.org

Treasurer: Laurie Wasserman

Treasurer@CRFGSanDiego.org

Secretary: Priya Kanakha

Secretary@CRFGSanDiego.org

Former Chair: Jennifer Fitzpatrick, Gregg Hansen

FormerChair@CRFGSanDiego.org

Upcoming Events — At a Glance

See website for details <http://crfgsandiego.org/events.htm>

1/27 – 7pm	San Diego Chapter Annual Scion Exchange
2/3 – 6pm	Board of Directors Meeting
2/13 – 8:30am	San Diego Botanic Garden Volunteer
2/19 – 7pm	North San Diego Chapter Paul Bingham
2/24 – 7pm	San Diego Chapter Grafting Demonstrations & Workshop



California Rare Fruit Growers
San Diego Chapter
P.O. Box 152943
San Diego, CA 92195
USA

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED