



San Diego Chapter Newsletter

April 2017



April 26th, 2017

Alden Hough

Rainwater Harvesting for Drylands Farming

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

Alden Hough is a Permaculture Designer and Educator, and Program Director of Non-Profit Organization Sky Mountain Permaculture in Escondido, where he teaches people how to regenerate the Earth and live more sustainable lives. He has created a seven acre rainwater harvesting demonstration site to show people how to 'first plant the water'. Alden graduated from the Center for Agro-ecology and Sustainable Food Systems program and has a geology degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Rainwater harvesting earthworks have been used by humans for thousands of years to grow food in drylands environments. Earthworks sculpture the land to divert water to where you want it to go. They create living sponges of organic matter, healthy soil and diverse vegetation that quickly infiltrate water and pump it back out in the form of fruit, shade, fertility, erosion control, wood, beauty and wildlife. At this talk Alden will share the success and challenges he has faced creating rainwater harvesting systems throughout San Diego. He will explain how you can capture the millions of gallons of free water available using inexpensive, simple methods.

We have had some GREAT classes thus far this year! A big thank you to Ben Kotnik for his grafting class & pruning and top-working demo, as well as to Greg Rager for his apple grafting workshop. & we have more on the schedule!

Please come and join in the fun at our Bancroft Propagation site on the Saturday following our General Meetings--You just never know what we might be up to...

This month we're hosting an inaugural backyard produce swap at 10:30 April 29th followed by a POTLUCK LUNCH! Bring any fruits, herbs, flowers, vegetables etc that you'd like to trade and see what other fun stuff you end up with.

We'll have tables and the club's reusable bowls and silverware for our potluck.

Then at 1pm our esteemed Bob Holzinger will give a cherimoya grafting demo. This event will be free to CRFG-SD members, \$10 for non-members. You can also join our organization at the event, yearly membership is \$10

We will have a limited amount of scion wood available for purchase at \$1.25 per stick. In addition, rootstock will be available on a first come, first served basis.

cash only.

Please RSVP for this event.

Any questions or concerns, please contact CRFG SD Co-Chair, Benjamin Cossel

EARTH DAY 2017

April 23rd
10am- 5pm

Maddie Wichman has fantastically coordinated our booth & volunteers for the patio space behind Casa del Prado--stop by to help out or just see what our volunteers have grown for the sale!

Executive Committee Meeting

1st Wednesday of every month
6:30pm-9pm

Marianne West's home
7144 San Miguel Ave, Lemon Grove, CA 91945
This meeting is open to all members to attend and participate.

Treasurer's report

Laurie Wasserman

Balance on March 1: **15,518.28**

Expenses

COGS Rootstock	384.12
Honorariums	300.00
Nursery License	150.00
Propagation	222.35
Recording Technology	272.76
Mango Tree order refund	35.00
Computer expense (tote)	77.55
Petty Cash (out) for gen. mtgs.	50.00
	\$1,491.78

Income

Void check	35.00
Tasting Jar	1.00
Opportunity Table	41.00
Grafting Supp.	51.00
Earth Day Vendors	125.00
Rootstock	226.00
Membership	30.00
	\$509.00

Balance 3/31: **\$14,259.00**

Notes:

- NO AMAZON COMMISSION (Hmm, I made purchases and clicked the button...)
- 2 more memberships from PayPal: money not transferred to bank yet so not listed above)
- January report stated \$10.00 membership income from PayPal, but is still in PayPal

Since we didn't really have PayPal activity until late last year, it slipped my mind to transfer money from PayPal to our bank.

Today, the PayPal balance is \$47.26 and will be transferred to the bank in April.

CRFG March 2017 Board Meeting

Present: Benjamin Cossel, Kelsey Cossel, Marianne West, Laurie Wassermann, Sue Lynn Steiner, Theo Moore

1. Treasurer report: will be emailed since bank statement is not ready
 - \$ 50 as petty cash for the propagation
 - check needed for workshop presenter \$ 100

- and check for Ben Kotnik needs to be issued for last weeks meeting.

2. Are minutes going into the newsletter?

3. Treasurer: Theo Moore will come on board soon to replace Laurie Wasserman after the report to CRFG, Inc. is finished. Theo will be writing up a short bio. Laurie will train Theo. As soon as report is done, Laurie will step down as treasurer and Theo will take over.

4. Laurie needs invoice from Priya for trees given as gratitude to members at christmas.

5. Membership: Sue Steiner will be the official membership person. Ben will teach Sue how to input the new member information into mail chimp and she will take over taking track of members.

6. Membership through Paypal. Treasurer need to check and coordinate with membership person.

7. Figure out how to make it possible to share membership information. To put on the membership signup form an agreement to share information with other members. Figure out on mail chimp how to sort.

8. Sue Lynn Steiner will be our official representative for the Balboa Park San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation.

9. Ben will write up a how to join message to be posted in every newsletter, on the website and Facebook.

10. Start meeting again with new comer and new member recognition.

11. We liked the new format of starting right at 7 with the speaker.

12. Refreshments, maybe somebody wants to come back and have others help.

13. Opportunity table needs a person running it. Maybe reach out to Karen Lakomy. There should a line item for the opportunity table to spend on buying things for the raffle. Marianne will contact Karen Lakomy and see if she is interested.

14. Committees being reinvigorated.

15. Let's think about speakers and get things going. Need a history of previous speakers with some information.

16. Planning a pruning workshop and going to ask Tom if he wants to do that. Benjamin is going to contact Tom.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20

Full recording of the meeting will be made available
Minutes prepared by Marianne West

Festival Botanical

Memorial Day weekend, Saturday, May 27, 2017, 10 A.M. – 3 P.M. Festival Botanical, will be held in Balboa Park. Included in the event is a children's Wagon Parade starting sharply at 10 A.M. at the Carousel and terminating at the Museum of Man roughly half an hour later. This has in the past drawn a crowd of about 10,000 people. It is a splendid opportunity for California Rare Fruit Growers to promote and provide information

Although there seems to no theme for the parade other than the focus of the group with each wagon **members creative input for design** is needed as well as **leadership to compile the supplies for the wagon and children's costumes. A family with a small child to ride in the wagon** and possibly an **older child from another family who can pull the wagon** through the route is needed. The family of each child participating will receive four free tickets for this year's State Fair at Del Mar. Other **volunteers are needed at 8 A.M. to help prepare the garden wagon** which I will gladly provide.

Equally important is **staffing at the CRFG table**, Can you provide one or two hours to share CRFG's mission statement, your expertise and your positive experience with the group? Sign up sheets will be available at both the April 26 and May 24 CRFG general meetings at the membership table.

If you have any questions or I can assist in any way contact: Sue Lynn Steiner (619) 683-3152.

Tasting and Refreshments Table

last names beginning with I or J

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!

Tomato Grafting!

We are excited to announce there will be a tomato grafting class. While we have a teacher (Paul Maschka of Wild Willow and Agua Dulce Farms,) we do not yet have a secure date but are targeting the end of May with another possible class in June/July.

Here is what you need to know now - we will have a supply of root stock available for sale as well as a selection of scions. We have planted two varieties of tomato for scion - Amana Orange and Black Vernissage.

If you would like to use your own scion, plant them now. We planted the root stock April 9, seeds acquired from Johnny's Selected Seeds (DRO141TX F1)

This class will be limited to 20 individuals, RSVP will be mandatory, and there will be a materials and instructor fee to be determined.

As soon as we have a date we will send out another Eblast with the date/time and a link to the EventBrite RSVP page.

This promises to be an exciting opportunity and we are thrilled to bring it to our members!

Do You have Extra Fruit?

We got a request for unusual fruit via our Facebook page. If you all don't know yet that we do have a Facebook page, here is a link that you can find, like and participate on it.

<https://www.facebook.com/CRFGSanDiego/>

Jesse Pine contacted us through the page. Here is his request:

"I found your group by recommendation of our friend Chuck over at Pitaya. We currently use some of his organic dragon fruit in a few of our beers.

We are a local San Diego craft brewery. Our focus is on ingredients first, where we do our best to source locally and organically whenever possible. We currently source a lot of citrus, berries, and stone fruit from organic farmers in San Diego County.

The reason I am reaching out is I wanted to see if there may be a potential for us to work with any of the members of your association by using some unique fruit in some of our seasonal beers and oak barrel aged beers?

We are a 1% for the Planet Organization and support Surfrider, Coastkeeper, and Outdoor Outreach. I feel there may be some synergy if we were able to connect.

Our website is www.purebrewing.org.

We brew with the seasons, so we like to play with anything as it comes about. It can be as little as 60 pounds to 100 pounds depending on if we use it for a clean/fresh beer or a barrel aged beer."

Jesse Pine can be reached via Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/jesse.pine.7> or contact the brewery if you are interested in getting some of your fruit made into beer.

SOP&R review committee formation meeting # 2

Wednesday May 17th
6-7pm

Butler's Coffee House
9631 Campo Rd.
Spring Valley, 91977 CA

Anyone interested in taking part in the review and reworking of our chapter's Standard Operating Procedures & Rules (SOP&Rs,) please join us as we brainstorm and put together the official committee.

You may join in person or via phone/skype etc. Only those members who attend at least one of the two formation meetings will be voting members of the committee.

The committee will begin the official reworking of the document that will ultimately be presented to our general membership after the May 17th meeting.

Please RSVP and/or make arrangements to call/Skype in @ bcossel@gmail.com

When you need to purchase items from Amazon.com, please remember to first go to our website, crfgsandiego.org. While our website is being updated, please find our Amazon Button in BLUE LETTERING at the bottom of the Services page!

The Chapter will receive a monthly commission from these Amazon purchases, which will continue to help us further our mission and goals for the Club! Thanks!

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

bcossel@gmail.com
307.274.0800

Co-Chair: Kelsey Cossel

bcossel@gmail.com
503.313.8871

Vice-Chair: Nathan Lou

MongolTribe@gmail.com

Treasurer: Laurie Wasserman

lauriekwasserman@gmail.com

Secretary: Marianne West

sustainablelivingpodcast@gmail.com
619.261.2327

Former Chair: Ben Kotnik

FormerChair@CRFGSanDiego.org

Upcoming Events — At a Glance

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

4/21 – 7pm	North San Diego County Chapter Pest management and Citrus with Dr. Gary Bender
4/22 - 4/23 10am – 4pm	Green Scene at Fullerton Arboretum
4/23 10am – 5pm	Earth Day Plant Sale at Balboa Park
4/26 – 7pm	San Diego Chapter Rainwater Harvesting for Drylands Farming
5/3 – 6pm	Executive Committee Meeting
5/13 – 9am	San Diego Botanic Garden Volunteer Contact June Andersen
5/19 – 7pm	North San Diego County Chapter Monthly meeting
5/24 – 7pm	San Diego Chapter Monthly meeting
5/27 10am – 1pm	Propagation Saturday Bancroft Propagation Site



California Rare Fruit Growers
San Diego Chapter
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED