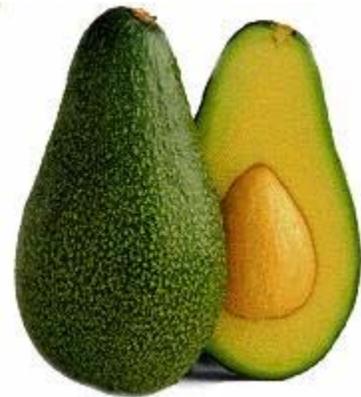


Foothill Chapter California Rare Fruit Growers

Next meeting:
Saturday, April 7, 2007 at 9:30 a.m.
Los Angeles County Arboretum
301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia
Lecture Hall "A"

Next meeting - Julie Frink, Avocado Expert

We are very fortunate to welcome **Julie Frink**, curator of the Avocado Variety Collection, UC South Coast Research and Extension Center in Irvine, as our special guest speaker for the Foothill CRFG meeting on Saturday, April 7. You may have seen Julie's avocado articles in the Fruit Gardener, the Los Angeles Times, or elsewhere. Please join us, and bring along anyone interested in growing (or just eating) avocados. We may even get to try a few varieties in a taste test.



Advance note of June meeting: Field trip to Cal Poly Pomona

Greg Partida has agreed to give the Foothill Chapter a tour of the Cal Poly Pomona growing grounds for the June meeting. On Saturday, our chair Joel Johnson will take a vote to determine if we want to see the main planting, or the AGRIsScapes planting with discussion of close planting and care of fruit trees. To quote from Cal Poly's web site, "Located on forty acres at Cal Poly Pomona, AGRIsScapes integrate and showcase farming and urban landscaping practices that are sustainable — environmentally beneficial, economically viable, and technologically sound. "

March Garden Gathering: Many thanks to Paul Rosnau

Paul Rosnau hosted our first Foothill CRFG "Garden Gathering" for 2007 on Saturday March 3. As a reminder, the Garden Gathering meets bimonthly (irregularly in winter, depending on the number of volunteers) in the months with no Foothill CRFG regular meetings (September, November, January, March, May, July). Paul had a good turnout at his place in Hacienda Heights, and reports that a grand time was had by all, with the weather about as good as could be expected. The crowd sampled kumquats,



orangequats and blood oranges and ate mangos, pineapple, grapes, cheese, pastry and hot spiced cider after touring the premises. Some of the participants wanted to see slides of Paul's paleontological work in Arizona, so they had an additional half-hour of viewing after some very enjoyable conversation and plenty to eat.

Left: *Towering timber bamboo in Paul's garden. He is happy to share, just ask (and be prepared for a lot of digging).*

Springtime in the garden

Winter is definitely over, and everything from citrus to stone fruit is in flower. I am pleased to see that the citrus leaf miner infestation that devastated my garden (and many of yours) last year seems to be completely gone, at least for this growth spurt. Maybe it was the cold snap, or maybe a predator has controlled them.

Right: *Showers of flowers on "Beaumont" macadamia, leading to a heavy crop of delicious nuts early next year.*



Left: *"Red Baron" peach. Every branch of the tree is a solid mass of flowers.*

Right: "Gold Nugget" mandarin.
Excellent fruit, very heavy bearer.



Sharing Table

Members with last names starting with 'A' through 'M', please bring goodies for the Sharing Table. And everyone, please lend a helping hand by cleaning up during and after the meeting. Let's all bring some fruits to share with the rest of the chapter - you probably have a surplus of loquats about now.

Chapter Miscellany

Plant Raffle

Please bring extra plants, seedlings, cuttings, etc., to the next meeting, with information and instructions for care. This is a steady fundraiser for our chapter, so please bring your unwanted extras.

Dues

Please pay CRFG and local chapter membership dues at the next meeting if past due.

THE FOOTHILL CHAPTER OF THE CRFG meets at 9:30 a.m. the first Saturday of alternate months (February, April, June, August, October, December) at the Arboretum of Los Angeles County, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia (just south of the 210 Freeway). There is no charge to enter the Arboretum to attend the meeting, which is usually in Lecture Hall "A". The easiest access is straight through the Gift Shop, then down the stairs to the right in the adjacent building. CHAIRMAN: Joel Johnson (joel@aridscapes.com, foothill@crfg.org)

Date of next CRFG chapter meeting (Cal Poly Pomona orchard tour): Saturday, June 2, 2007