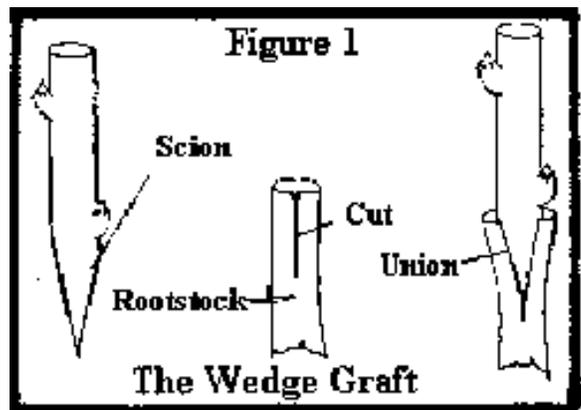


## Foothill Chapter California Rare Fruit Growers

**Saturday, February 7, 2004 at 9:30 a.m.**  
**Arboretum of Los Angeles County**  
**301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia**  
**Lecture Hall A (free admission)**

### Next meeting: Annual Scion Exchange

Bring your scionwood to Foothill Chapter's scion exchange. Share your favorite varieties of deciduous fruit trees with fellow members! Please bring scions, trimmed to about 4 buds, in bags clearly labeled with fruit and variety. Glenn Young will share an interesting collection from Leonard Jessen, and many more of us will provide cuttings from our home orchards. The more people contribute, the more successful this event will be, so if a fruit tree, vine, or bush does well in your garden, bring some for others to clone!



By the way, you can find much useful information online regarding grafting. A good place to start is at the "California Backyard Orchard" site at UC Davis (<http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu/generalinfo.shtml>).



### The mandarins are here!

As advertised at December's meeting, as a fundraiser for the CRFG, Martin Koning Bastiaan will have Golden Nuggets and TDE2s, two wonderful new commercially-unavailable mandarin varieties, for sale for \$20 each (in limited numbers, so come early).

## Pest of the Month

Christine Warren writes, "Here is an insect on my strawberry guava, I would like it identified if possible. It does not harm the tree." Can any local expert help Christine?



## Launch of "Garden Gatherings" - from Joel Johnson

Announcing the launch of the Garden Gatherings!: Hungry for more... fruit, knowledge, socializing? Or just looking for another excuse to commune with nature? The Foothills Chapter is trying to arrange 'field trips' to members' gardens on the off-months (those without the regular chapter meetings). We'll keep to the 1st Saturday, 9:30 time, but at a different location every other month. This will hopefully be a good chance to see what other members are growing, learn how they're doing it, and maybe even taste a few things that weren't quite ripe the previous month. Learn, share, see first hand! "So that's what a thrip looks like." "Gee, grafting doesn't look so difficult after all." "Hmm, I guess worm composting really doesn't smell." "You can EAT that?!" All we need are proud gardeners to invite us to see the veritable fruits of their labors. We will then advertise the location in the newsletter and at the regular meeting.

To kick this off, I happily invite you my place on **930 am, March 6th**. My humble garden is still in its infancy, and I probably have more questions for you than I can answer, but let's get as many people together as we can, outside in the sunshine, and just see what happens! My address is **967 North Mentor Ave in Pasadena**. Take the Lake exit north from the 210, go about 0.7 miles up and hang a right on Mountain, then take your first left on Mentor. 6th house on the left. Don't bother knocking, just come around back! I'll provide the beverages and a few goodies, and any treats you cared to bring would surely be enjoyed by all. Also, try to picture when you might be able to host such a Gathering, as we obviously need future volunteers. If you feel you can make it, I'd appreciate a heads up so I'll know how much coffee to brew. I can be reached at 626-

791-0686 and my email is jajohnson@swales.com. Contact me to RSVP, host, or in the case of inclement weather. I look forward to seeing you soon!

### **A Foothill CRFG Plant Database - from Joel Johnson**

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With SCI-EX 2004 approaching (save and label your prunings!), and the Garden Gatherings still a month off, I find myself eager to learn what other folks are growing. I'm also having problems with my blueberries, but who can I ask for help? It would be great if we had a database of what exactly our members were growing, and some insight into what valuable, unique knowledge each might possess. If you'll tell me, I'd be glad to organize it into a format that could be a great reference for us all. Maybe place orders for the scion exchange, or find out if anybody in your area has had success with something needing "more winter chill", or even pressure someone with curious plants into hosting a Gathering (ok, but be nice about it...). If you'll email me a list of all the different FRUITS you're growing (cultivar name too), along with your NAME, CONTACT phone number or email address, and what CITY you live in, I'll incorporate it into a sort of phonebook. The listing by plant name will be the "business listings" or White Pages. The Yellow Pages are a little harder to define, but if you have any specific interests (like vermiculture) or you feel you have useful knowledge or experience in something (worked on a mango fam) please include that as well. Specific horticultural practices would be a little too detailed, however, since my hope is only to provide a catalyst for members to engage in deeper communications. I may be opening up a real can of worms here, but I will do my best to organize this into a useful form. I imagine this will take a while to evolve, but if you can give me some information to start with and I bring the folder and a pen with me to each of the meetings, we may be able to capture a great deal of this amazing resource that our membership community represents. Remember, CRFG desperately needs new members, and the main way to encourage people to join is to provide something of value. With any luck, this database will prove to be a great tool for all of us! Just send your lists to me at jajohnson@swales.com Thank You!

### **Festival of Fruit - advance notice**

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#### ***YEAR OF THE BERRY***

Los Angeles Chapter

June 18, 19, & 20, 2004

**CAL POLY POMONA - Bronco Student Center - 3801 W. Temple Ave. Pomona**

## Some of the topics:

Growing tropicals	Pitayas		New varieties of stone fruits
Marketing fruits	Mangos for the home gardener	Passion plants	Mason bees
Growing subtropicals	Planting tropical fruits	Raspberries-red/black	Eugenia &- cherry like fruit
Orchard demo	Berries for So California	Soils	Mulberries
Avocados	Vertebrate pest control	Grafting	Blueberries
Cooking with fruit	Ant entomology	Greenhouse cultivation	
Ribes	Sapodilla	Cherimoya	

## And the tours:

**Thursday Tour to Melissa's 12:00 Noon**-Tour of warehouse, & packing facility followed by lunch at Melissa's **First 20 registrations only !**

**Friday** Tour of La Verne Nursery-morning

**Friday Tour to Melissa's same as above** (lunch to be served at **Melissa's**) **First 20 registrations only !**

**Sunday** Tour of Cal Poly tropical and citrus area & Center for Regenerative Studies (Cal Poly) morning

**Sunday Tour of Fullerton Arboretum around 1:00 p.m**

We will also have tours of our local CRFG members' gardens on Sunday



***Mango, "Valencia Pride"***  
***David Szymkowski***

**Send your digital photos for inclusion in the next newsletter!**

### Sharing Table:

Members with last names starting with 'A' through 'M', please bring goodies (fruit, baked goods, etc.) for the Sharing Table. Fruit from your own garden is especially welcome!

And everyone, please lend a helping hand by cleaning up during and after the meeting.

## **Chapter Miscellany:**

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### **Request:**

I would be happy to include photographs of interesting plants from any Foothill CRFG member. Please send your digital photos, with a description, to me at david.szymkowski@adelphia.net.

### **Plant Raffle:**

Please bring a plant in a pot with information and instructions for care.

### **Dues:**

Please pay membership dues at next meeting if past due.

### **Save a stamp!**

Thanks to those of you who have already indicated your preference for an email reminder of our meeting. To save the club's time and money, please respond to me at (david.szymkowski@adelphia.net and I will remove your from our postcard list.

<p><b>THE FOOTHILL CHAPTER OF THE CRFG</b> 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 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: Rod Kiewiet, foothill@crfg.org</p>
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***Date of next meeting: Saturday, April 3, 2004***