

**Foothill Chapter
California Rare Fruit Growers**

Next meeting:

**Saturday, February 4, 2006 at 9:30 a.m.
Los Angeles County Arboretum
301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia
Lecture Hall A (free admission)**

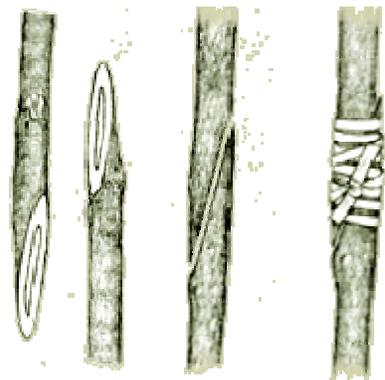
Our next meeting will be a busy one - we have first, our annual scion exchange, and second, a special guest speaker. This newsletter is being sent a bit early to announce the scion exchange preview and grafting demonstration at Joel Johnson's garden, this Saturday, January 27.

Foothill CRFG Scion Exchange 2006

Our next annual scion exchange will be held at the February 4 meeting to kick off 2006. Please bring scionwood to share, even if you don't plan on grafting yourself. Rare varieties, particularly things that do well in your own garden, are especially appreciated. Scionwood should be roughly pencil diameter, last year's growth, and have several buds on it. Labeled ziplock bags with a damp paper towel are good for storage. Please label the bags with the fruit and variety, and be prepared to answer questions. Personally, contributions of cherimoya, peach, and almond scion wood would be greatly appreciated. And finally, don't forget to bring ziplock bags, a marker, and labels so you can identify what you bring home.

Early Scion Exchange Preview and Grafting Demonstration, January 27

Joel Johnson has kindly agreed to host a scion exchange and grafting demonstration at his home in Pasadena on Saturday, January 28 at 930 am. We are trying this new event because the February date for the scion exchange during our regular meeting is often a bit late for successful grafting here in Southern California. Please drop in at Joel's with scionwood donations for this early bird grafting session. Directions to Joel's house at 967 North Mentor Ave in Pasadena: take the Lake exit north from the 210 freeway, go about 0.7 miles and turn right on Mountain, then take your first left onto Mentor. Joel is the sixth house



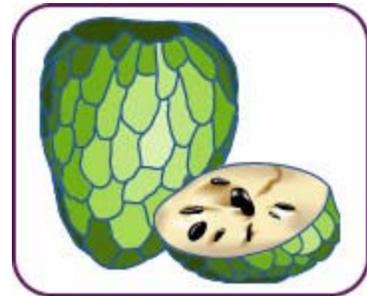
on the left (cactus garden in front). Don't bother knocking, just come around back. Questions? Contact Joel at joel@aridscapes.com

February Meeting Main Event: Cherimoya Lecture



We have a special guest speaker at our upcoming meeting. It is a pleasure to welcome Nino Cupaiuolo, who will be speaking to us about "New Advances in Cherimoya Cultivation". Mr. Cupaiuolo is on the board of directors of the California Cherimoya Association, a nonprofit organization dedicated to research into Cherimoya production and distribution (see (www.cherimoya.org)).

Our cherimoya enthusiasts will also be interested to know that the Cherimoya Association annual meeting will be held at the University of California's South Coast Research & Extension Center, 7601 Irvine Boulevard in Irvine on Saturday, February 18, 2006. In addition to the annual meeting, there will be a tour of the research station's cherimoya collection and the first annual cherimoya budwood program. For more information on attending, please see the flier appended to this newsletter.



Garden Gathering

We will start this year's series of Garden Gatherings at the editor's home on March 4, 9:30 - 11:30 am. Garden Gatherings are the Foothill CRFG's informal occasional meetings, held at member's gardens on the first Saturday of alternate months from our regular meetings. All Foothill and other CRFG members are welcome to come over, tour my relatively young fruit garden (we've been here less than 4 years), and have some refreshments. Hopefully we'll be able to observe some successful grafts from the scion exchange. We'll also have a plant and fruit swap, so bring something to barter or just to donate. I'd appreciate an RSVP if you plan on attending. Directions: 531 N. Alta Vista Avenue, Monrovia. Take the 210 freeway to Myrtle Avenue exit, go north about 2 miles until Myrtle ends at Alta Vista. Turn left; we are then the second house on the right. Any questions? Contact me at david.szymkowski@adelphia.net, or (626) 305-0443.

If anyone is interested in hosting this popular event in future months (May, July, September, November) please speak to Joel Johnson at the meeting, or contact him at joel@aridscapes.com).

Ideas on Future Chapter Meeting Topics

Ideas for future speakers at our chapter meetings are always welcome. If you have expertise in a particular subject and are willing to share, or if you know an expert who can speak, or even if you just have a request for a particular topic, please let Rod Kiewiet know (foothill@crfg.org).

Sharing Table

Members with last names starting with 'N' through 'Z', please bring goodies for the Sharing Table (of course we won't turn your donation away if you are an 'A' through 'M!'). And everyone, please lend a helping hand by cleaning up during and after the meeting.

Chapter Miscellany

Plant Raffle

Please bring extra plants, 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.

Nametags

Please wear your CRFG nametag, if you have one, to our meetings, so new people can learn some names. If you don't have a nametag yet, you can order one at the next meeting.

Save a stamp

If you are reading this and still also receive a postcard reminder, please drop me a line and I'll happily remove you from the snail mail list. Please respond to me at david.szymkowski@adelphia.net.

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: Rod Kiewiet, foothill@crfg.org

Date of next CRFG chapter meeting: Saturday, February 4, 2006



ANNUAL MEETING, SOUTH COAST RESEARCH STATION
 CHERIMOYA COLLECTION TOUR AND
 FIRST ANNUAL CHERIMOYA BUDWOOD PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 18, 2006

South Coast Research & Extension Center
 7601 Irvine Boulevard, Irvine, CA (949)653-1810

Program

Registration	9:30 a.m.
President's Comments, Financial Report and Board of Directors Appointments	10:00 a.m.
California Cherimoya Association's Eph Konigsberg Backyard Pruning of Cherimoya	10:30 a.m.
Guest Speaker Karen Firestein Cooperative Specialist USDA Rural Development Center	11:30 a.m.
Onolicious Hawaiian Barbecue Lunch Provided by Leilani's, Bonsall, CA Featuring Kalua Pig & Hawaiian Chicken	12:30 a.m.
Cherimoya Tree Sale 2006 Budwood Program Raffle	1:15 p.m.
Cherimoya Variety Tasting Dessert Table Demonstration Tables	
South Coast Cherimoya Collection Grove Tour	
Dr. Gary Bender, Sub-Tropical Fruit Specialist Research Update	2:00 p.m.
Scott Van Der Kar; Pine Hill Ranch Cherimoya Collection Pruning Update	
Thank you For Joining Us!	



Wendy Reisman , Secretary
1863 Wilstone Avenue
Leucadia, CA 92024

**CALIFORNIA CHERIMOYA ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING
SOUTH COAST RESEARCH STATION CHERIMOYA COLLECTION
TOUR
FIRST ANNUAL CHERIMOYA BUDWOOD PROGRAM
AND
Cherimoya Tree Sale**

FEBRUARY 18, 2006

South Coast Research Station & Extension Center

Please send your check payable to “California Cherimoya Association” to Wendy Reisman, 1863 Wilstone Avenue, Leucadia, CA 92024 by February 8, 2006.

Speaker Profiles:

***Eph Konigsberg* * Pruning Cherimoya for the Backyard Grower**

Eph is a California Cherimoya Association Board Member and Founding Chair of the California Fruit Growers Foothill Chapter. He will speak about the 20 reasons for, importance of and mechanics of pruning cherimoya for the grower/enthusiast. If you just wanted one more cherimoya in your small space but don't know how to squeeze one more tree in, pruning may be just the answer. Don't know when or how to prune your new cherimoya or why it is even important, join Eph.

***Karen Firestein* * How to Form a Cherimoya Cooperative**

Karen is a Cooperative Specialist for USDA Rural Development, Davis, California. Cooperative Specialists provide assistance in general cooperative education, the formation of new cooperatives and board education. In addition, Karen administers various USDA Rural Business Cooperative grant programs including the Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG) and the Rural Business Enterprise Grants. Forming a cherimoya cooperative could allow cherimoya growers to strengthen and form marketing strategies and gain retail power. Is it in our future?

***Dr. Gary Bender* * South Coast Cherimoya Collection Research Update and Grove Tour**

Dr. Bender is a University of California Cooperative Extension Tropical Fruit Tree Specialist and the South Coast Research Station Cherimoya Collection Research Leader. Dr. Bender will tour the Cherimoya Collection with us and report on his current cherimoya tree girdling and armillaria research.

***Scott Van Der Kar* * Pruning the South Coast Cherimoya Collection**

Scott is the owner of Pine Hill Ranch in Carpinteria, California, a commercial orchard consisting of many acres of cherimoya, lemons, flowers. Scott is one of the founding members of the California Cherimoya Association and known to us as our commercial pruning expert. This past fall, Scott brought his crew to prune a section of the South Coast Cherimoya Collection. The Collection has suffered from University cutbacks and Scott will explain his efforts this past fall in trying to rejuvenate the neglected grove.

***Oscar Garcia* * Vista, California**

Oscar is a Vista, California grower of guavas, atemoyas and cherimoyas excited and willing to show us all a better trap for gophers at our demonstration table.

Directions to University of California South Coast Research & Extension Center :

Via I-5 south or I-405 south; exit at Sand Canyon Avenue in Irvine. Turn left and go to Irvine Boulevard. Turn Right and go 1 mile to SCREC on the left, 100 yards past Lambert road.

Via I-5 north or I-405 north; exit at Sand Canyon Avenue in Irvine. Turn right and go to Irvine Boulevard. Turn Right and go 1 mile to SCREC on the left, 100 yards past Lambert road.

Via

Via highway 91 to highway 55; go toward Newport (beaches). Exit at I-5 south towards San Diego and proceeds as above.

For Event & Membership Information, please contact Association Secretary Wendy Reisman, 1863 Wilstone Avenue, Leucadia, CA 92024 / 760-942-8464 or wendyreisman@sbcglobal.net